The North-Eastern Daily Gazette.

ESTABLISHED 1869. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1891. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Public Companies & Investments

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS were OPENED on MONDAY, 16th February, 1891, and will CLOSE on SATURDAY, the 21st day of February, 1891.

CHARLES CLEANSING MACHINES COMPANY, LIMITED.—Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886. Share capital £21,000, divided as follows:

1,500 Ordinary Shares of £1 each.
1,500 Deferred Shares of £1 each.
1,500 Founders' Shares of £1 each.
500 Deferred Shares and 200 Founders' Shares will be allotted to the vendors in part purchase money.
1,500 Ordinary Shares and 700 Founders'

Deferred Shares will receive no dividend in any year until 9 per cent. shall have been paid on the Ordinary Shares for that year.

Shares (upon which £1 will be paid on application) will receive no dividend in any year until the Ordinary and deferred shares have received 10 per cent. The founders' shares will then receive one-half of the profits remaining available for distribution amongst subscribers for the founders' shares and a subscription of ordinary shares in the proportion of twenty ordinary to one founders'.

The Articles of Association contain powers enabling interim dividends to be paid on the Ordinary Shares, and dividends on the Preference Shares will be payable half-yearly on the 1st January and 1st July.

TRUSTEES FOR DEBENTURE HOLDERS.

TRUSTEES, EXECUTORS, AND SECURITIES INSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

DIRECTORS.

CHARLES ALLEN, Esq., Chairman (Director of Sir Henry Doxcomer and Co., Limited, Sheffield).
DAVID ANDREW BELL-IRVING, Esq., Waterside, Ecclefechan, N.B.
CHARLES CAMMELL, Esq., (Director of C. Cammell and Co., Limited, Sheffield).
WILLIAM MCCOWAN, Esq., Moresby, Whitehaven (Chairman of the Whitehaven Hematite Iron and Steel Co., Limited).
T. H. PEARSON, Esq., Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire (Director of Pearson and Knowles Coal and Iron Company, Limited).
GUSTAF ROOS, Esq., Montford House, Sunbury-on-Thames.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE IN FRANCE.

M. LACOMBE, (Sénateur de l'Aveyron), 1, Rue du Marché Neuf, Paris.
M. MONTET (Députée de l'Aveyron), 6, Rue Taitbout, Paris.

M. PAUL PIGNERES, Avocat, 58, Boulevard de Clichy, Paris.

SECRETARY IN PARIS.

M. LEOPOLD DE BUSSY, 18, Rue Auber, Paris.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

Messrs J. and P. HIGSON, 13, Booth-street, Manchester.

BANKERS.

The Consolidated Bank, Limited, London and Manchester.

BROKERS.

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Liverpool—Messrs MILNER, PEEL, HUGHES, AND CO., 8, Cook-street, Liverpool.

LEGAL ADVISER IN FRANCE.

C. KENNERLEY HALL, Esq., 4, Rue de la Paix, Paris.

AUDITORS.

Messrs HARMOOD BANNER AND SON, 24, North John-street, Liverpool.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.

Mr J. W. PARTINGTON, 2, St. James's-square, Manchester.

SHORT ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The Company's objects comprise the acquisition, working, and development of very extensive coal fields, with the partially opened collieries thereon, situate in France, near Rodez, the chief town of the department of l'Aveyron.

Rodez is centrally situated in a populous and thriving district, about 140 miles from the important Harbour of Cette, about 240 miles from Marseilles, about 217 miles from Bordeaux, about 280 miles from Lyons, and at distances from about 180 to 260 miles from Nimes, Montpellier, Toulouse, and Montauban, and other large towns.

Reports on the property have been made from time to time by Government Officials, and recently by the following well-known English Engineers:—Messrs Walter Pelle, and Wilson, of 11, Queen Victoria-street, London, and Whitehaven; and Mr John E. Mammatt, Consulting Engineer of Bristol, who in 1881 made through the property has now brought these valuable Coalfields into practical utility with extensive workings, and this Company now will now supply English experience and the latest scientific methods of development.

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AND ALSO

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And, as Mr Mammatt points out:—

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And the total production of the French Collieries .. .. .. 23 „
So that there have to be imported from other countries .. .. 10½ million tons

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"I believe the Rodez Collieries will be amongst the most successful in France."

Taking the smaller estimated output of 1,000 tons per day for only 300 days in the year, and a profit per ton of three shillings only, the net profits would be £45,000 per annum, and this, when attained, would be sufficient to pay 20 per cent. per annum on the Ordinary Shares, after providing interest at 6 per cent. per annum on Debentures, 6 per cent. on the Preference Shares, and setting aside a large sum for reserve and other purposes.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be had from the Company's Bankers and their Branches, and the Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

The List closes on Thursday, the 19th instant.

Tenders.

STOCKTON UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The Rural Sanitary Authority of the Stockton Union are prepared to receive TENDERS for the Lowell ing, Paving, Curbing, and Flagging (including the construction of Surface Drains and Gullies in connection with the same) of the following Streets at Haverton Hill, for the parish of Billingham:—Clarence-street, Oak-street, back street north of Clarence-street, back street north end of Ash, Oak, and Elm Streets, back street south end of Ash and Oak Streets, and back street between Oak and Elm Streets.

Plans, Sections, and Specification may be seen on application to Mr. John Rotham, Surveyor to the Authority, at his office, Finkle-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Paving," may be sent to me not later than 10 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, the 24th inst.

The Sanitary Authority do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

(By Order) JAS. ROBINSON,
Clerk to the Rural Sanitary Authority.
Union Offices, Stockton-on-Tees, 12th February, 1891.

CORPORATION OF STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

TO WHEELWRIGHTS.—The District Fund Committee are prepared to receive TENDERS for six new carts. Specification may be seen and Form of Tender obtained on application to the Borough Engineer. Tenders, endorsed, to be sent to me not later than 12 a.m. on Tuesday, the 24th inst.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

(By Order) M. B. DODDS, Town Clerk.
17th February, 1891.

BUILDERS desirous of Tendering for the Erection of Two Pair of Semi-detached Villas at North Ormesby are requested to send their names and addresses to me on or before the 19th day of February.

R. LOFTHOUSE,
62, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.—Heads, Cills, Steps, Thresholds, Curbs, Landings, Flags; Stone Covers from 2in. thick upwards and from 7 to 9 square feet; Stone Cisterns, wrought ready for fixing. G. BATTYE, Stone Merchant, New Cross-st, Bradford.

JOHN DOVE & CO., BUILDERS' MERCHANTS & LATH RENDERS, 5, ST. NICHOLAS BUILDINGS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, AND 12, GIVEN for the Best Portland Cement, Mastic, and Keene's Cements, Long Winter Hair Laths, Tacks, Trowel Brands and Tools. Sole Agents for Cambrid Grey Granite (direct from the Quarries), Carlisle Plaster, Sanitary Pipes, Staffordshire Flooring Tiles, Ridging, &c.; Fire, Plate, and Pressed Bricks; Asphalt, &c. New Illustrated Trade Price List on application. Telephones, Post Office No. 613, North District No. 1,122. Telegrams, DOVE, Newcastle. Established 1854.

Education.

C. A. HARRIS, A.C.O. — Lessons Organ, Piano, Singing, Harmony. 38, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

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Publications.

BOOKS TO BUY (post free prices affixed):
Guide to Success in Poultry Keeping 1s 2d
Lono's Art of Boot and Shoe Making 2s 2d
Whitaker's Peerage 7d
Beecham's Music Portfolios (Vols. 1, 2, and 3).. 5d each
Watchmaker and Jeweller's Manual. By Stelle 2s 6d
Stationery Trade Directory. By Reynolds.... 3s 6d
Mrs Beeton's Cookery Book (latest edition) .. 1s 2d
Indian Clubs, Dumb Bells, and Sword Exercises 7d
Soap Maker's Manual 1s 8d
Shopkeeper's and Assistant's Book 1s 2d
Address JOHN WILSON, Bookseller, West Hartlepool.

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BRUCE'S Livery Stables, Harris-street. Telephone No. 5,158. Orders promptly attended to.

Public Companies & Investments

The List of Applications for Shares NOW OPEN, and will close TO-MORROW (THURSDAY), the 19th February, 1891.

THE RODEZ COLLIERIES, LIMITED. (Incorporated under the Companies Acts.)

SHARE CAPITAL.

7,500 £7 per cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £10 each £75,000
12,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each 120,000

£195,000

The Debenture Capital is reserved for issue after completion of purchase of the property.

The Vendor takes £25,000 of the Preference and £40,000 of the Ordinary Shares in part payment of the purchase-money. £15,850 of the Preference Shares have been already applied for and allotted to the Directors and their friends. The residue are now offered for public subscription at par.

The Preference and Ordinary Shares are payable:—10s per Share on Application, £2 on Allotment, £2 10s one month after Allotment, and the balance as required by Calls not exceeding £2 10s at intervals not less than two months.

The Articles of Association contain powers enabling interim dividends to be paid on the Ordinary Shares, and dividends on the Preference Shares will be payable half-yearly on the 1st January and 1st July.

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Public Notices.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
FEBRUARY 22ND.
An EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Middleton Teesdale at 1 p.m. (with bookings from Romaldkirk, Barnard Castle, Winston, Darlington, &c.) for LEEDS. For particulars see bills. 19

EXCHANGE HALL, STOCKTON.

CANON TALBOT
Will deliver a Course of Lectures on
THE ENGLISH REFORMATION.
Sixth Lecture, FEBRUARY 20TH.
Subject:—
"OUR CHURCH SERVICES."
Splendid Lantern Illustrations.
To commence at 8. Tickets for Course, 2s; unreserved 6d; single lecture, 6d and 2d.

EXCHANGE HALL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

MR BARNES'S GRAND
EVENING CONCERT,
ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 1891.

ARTISTES:—
MADAME TREBELLI
(The World-Renowned contralto; her first appearance in the Provinces since the closing of her operatic season)
SIGNORINA ELVIRA GAMBOGI
(Of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, and the principal Continental Opera Houses).
MR HENRY PIERCY (The Popular English Tenor).
MR MAYBRICK
(Stephen Adams; the Eminent Vocalist and Composer).
M. AUGUST VAN BIENE
(The Celebrated Solo Violoncellist).
SOLO PIANOFORTE: CHEVALIER L. EMIL BACH
(Pianist to the Court of Roumania).
CONDUCTOR: MR FRANK J. WATKIS.
ADMISSION:—5/-, 3/-, 2/-, and 1/-.
Plan of reserved seats at the Music Rooms, Yarm-road. Doors open at 7.15; Concert at 8. 25

STEAMER BEAR RELIEF FUND.—The steamer Bear, of Hudswell, was run down in the Firth of Forth on Sunday, January 11th, and as there are twelve Widows and about thirty-eight Orphans of the crew left unprovided for, a large and influential Committee has been formed for the purpose of raising a Fund for the relief of such of them as it may in the opinion of the Committee be necessary to relieve.

Believing the object to be a thoroughly deserving one, the Committee earnestly hope that the public of Middlesbrough, Whitby, Filey, and Kirkwall will co-operate in carrying the movement to a successful issue.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received by any of the Committee or by the undersigned.

M. G. COLLINGWOOD (Mayor), Treasurer.
ALFRED SOCKETT, Honorary Secretary.
Municipal Buildings, Middlesbrough, January, 1891.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.—ESTABLISHED 1882.
MIDDLESBROUGH and OTHER CENTRES
THEORETICAL EXAMINATION, Fourth Saturday in June. Practical, early in July.
The characteristics of the Examinations are—An absolutely well-defined Syllabus of requirements. The attendance of two Examiners at each Examination. No professional local representation. Candidates only known to the Examiners by numbers. Total of marks gained sent to each candidate after Examination.
All particulars from the Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr E. Chadwick, 39, Friar Gate, Derby.

DURHAM COUNTY COLLIERY ENGINEMEN'S ASSOCIATION.—A District MEETING of the above Society will be held in the CENTRAL HALL, Dundas-street, Spennymoor, on SATURDAY, February 21st, 1891. Chair to be taken at 4.30 p.m. All members are invited to attend. 19

NATIONAL LABOUR FEDERATION.—A PUBLIC MEETING of the above Society will be held at the TEMPERANCE HALL, Dovecot-street, Stockton, on WEDNESDAY, the 18, at 7.30 p.m. Speakers: COUNCILLOR FOORD, of South Shields, Chairman of the Executive Council, N.L.F.; Messrs HARRIS and SINCLAIR, Newcastle (Tyne) Council; MR O'DOWD, and Others. All Workmen invited. Admission free. COUNCILLOR SAMUEL, C.C., will occupy the Chair. 18

TEMPARANCE HALL, DOVECOT-STREET, STOCKTON.
HERR COHEN
Will attend in his rooms daily from 10 to 1.30, 3 to 5, and 7 to 9. LAST WEEK for the Sale of his PATENT REFLECTING COAL FIRE.
Note: Entrance to Herr Cohen's Rooms by side door only; Prince Regent-street.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
THIS WEEK:—
The popular Actor, HARRY REYNOLDS, supported by old favourites, in the entirely new Drama, in four Acts, entitled
THE SLAVE OF PARIS.

OXFORD PALACH, Middlesbrough.—THIS WEEK:—Herr Unthan, the World's Phenomenon, the Nineteenth Century Marvel; Miss Morie Violetta, Professor Dusenain, D. W. Watson, Miss Smith Manley, Messrs Jolly and Beach, Miss Maud Haigh, Messrs Morgan and Allcon.

GAIETY THEATRE, West Hartlepool.—This Week—
THE ORIGINAL JUVENILE COMIC OPERA CO.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE, Lambton-street (off Lynn-street), West Hartlepool.—This Week—
ALICE ALLEN, the Monarch of the Air.
MR FRED IZANT, Character Comedian.
Messrs FOX and FOX, in their Celebrated Act, "FUN IN A GYMNASIUM."
Miss BLANCHE PALMARA, "The Little Irish Girl."
JOHN PERCY, the Great London Character.
RHYNE and HANSON, Black and White Eccentrics.
Mr WALTER BANNELL, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer.
THE DOSTAS, Marvellous Second Sight Artistes.
NEXT WEEK—"RAGS" is Coming.

THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE.

GIGANTIC SUCCESS OF
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
LOOK OUT FOR THE TRIPS!

THE LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAMS
Including
MIDDLESBROUGH,
DARLINGTON,
STOCKTON,
DURHAM,
HARTLEPOOL, &c.,
Received with cheers every Performance.

SATURDAYS at Two. EVERY NIGHT at SEVEN.

TYNE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS AND MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION OF
AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S FOURTH ANNUAL PANTOMIME,
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK,
The whole produced under the direction of VICTOR STEVENS.

An exceptionally Powerful Company are engaged, including:—
MISS FANNIE LESLIE
(The Premier Boy in Pantomime),
Miss Patti Haywood, Mr Harry Fischer,
Miss Alice Leyton, Mr Harry Kilburn,
Miss Lily Martin, Mr Alexander,
Miss Lillie Richardson, Mr H. M. Clifford,
and
MR VICTOR STEVENS.

EVERY NIGHT AT SEVEN. EVERY SATURDAY AT TWO.
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK.

PRICES AS USUAL.
Box Office (T. Henderson) open daily from 11 to 4.
Saturdays, 11 to 4.

Situations Vacant.

ADVERTISEMENTS INSERTED UNDER THIS HEADING AT THE FOLLOWING PREPAID RATES:—
16 WORDS, 1 DAY, 6D.....3 DAYS, 1S 3D.....6 DAYS, 2S
24 WORDS, 1 DAY, 9D.....3 DAYS, 1S 9D.....6 DAYS, 3S
This applies to "specials" wants only of Servants, &c.

AGENCY for Servants; Mrs Hodgson, 121, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough. Good situations.

AGENCY for Servants, Miss Wright, Derby House, Hartlington-road, Stockton. Good situations.

AGENCY for Servants.—Miss Hayllar, 9, Bridge-road, Stockton. Good Servants Wanted.

AGENCY for Servants; Mrs Reid, 33, Mandale-road, South Stockton. Moderate terms.

AGENTS Wanted, whole or spare time, commission and bonus. Irelon and Co., 22, Gracechurch-street, London.

AGENTS Wanted to Sell Collier's Pills; good commission. Apply for particulars to James Collier, Cwmynisscy, Pontypool, Mon.

AGENTS.—Insurance Agents, Timekeepers, and Canvassers Wanted to Sell Jewellery on commission. Address N2, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

AGENTS Wanted everywhere for "Business Register," salary and commission; £4 weekly caused. Messrs Hamilton, Congleton, Cheshire.

A GENT Wanted, £2s per quarter, paid weekly; splendid opening; experience unnecessary; specimens free. Address Compo Works, Farnworth, Bolton.

BARMAID.—Young Lady Wanted. Apply Vine Arms Hotel, Stockton.

BARMAID, good Generals, and Kitchenmaid Wanted. Apply Mrs Davison, Registry, 73, Corporation-road, Middlesbrough.

BUTCHERING.—Wanted, strong Youth as Improver; one who has been with pork and beef butcher preferred. Address F99, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

BOYS Wanted used to feeding printing machine. Address F11, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

BOYS and Girls.—Wanted, several strong Boys and Girls. Apply J. W. Hope, Bridge End Mineral Water Works, Willington, Durham.

BEFORE applying elsewhere ladies and servants should apply at Mrs Bowman's old established Registry Office, 2, Low Tenters-street, Bishop Auckland.

CLERK Wanted; age 17 to 18; shorthand; good penman. Address, stating salary required, to M24, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

COTTON Cleaning Wastes.—Wanted, by old-established firm of manufacturers, an agent; must have good connection. Address, stating terms, Cotton, care Lee and Nightingale, Advertising Agents, Liverpool.

CANVASSERS and Collectors Wanted, good pushing man, for sewing machines. W. Sellers and Sons (late new address), 20, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

CIVIL Service.—Ages 14 to 25; salaries from £40 to £300; great demand in the Post Office for Ladies under 20. Rapid progression by competitive and in class. N. Watson, Witton-le-Wear, Darlington.

CLERKS, Ladies, Everybody Wanted to learn D.E. Book-keeping by Post (free). 500 references. Sec., 25a, Cambridge-street, Edinburgh.

CLERKSHIPS, &c., Her Majesty's Civil Service. Age 14—25. Ladies under 20. Salaries £70—£400. 104 Clerks Wanted April next; age 21 to 25. Over 1,200 appointments recently obtained. Thorough preparation in class or by post. Complete guide free. Write or call, G. E. Skerry, 67, 69, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

COOKS, Housemaids, and Generals Wanted at once. £10 to £20. Mrs Pluse, 71, Linthorpe-rd., M'bro'.

COOK (plain) or thorough General Servant; private family (3); housemaid and boy kept; part washing. Mrs Pearson, Whitby.

COOK (good, plain) Wanted for Stockton; good wages; no washing. Miss Hayllar's Registry, Bridge-road, Stockton.

COOK and Housemaid. Please meet Lady, 1 o'clock, Thursday first, at Miss Wright's, Derby House, Stockton.

COOK (also, Housemaid) Wanted for business house. Apply Housekeeper, care of Carter and Co., Stockton-on-Tees.

DAY cook (respectable, trustworthy) Wanted, about 25 or 26. Apply Coverdale's Library, Redcar.

DRESS and Mantle Making.—Apprentices Wanted. Apply 1, Hardwick-terrace, Stockton.

DRESSMAKING.—Wanted, Apprentices and Improvers. Apply Dull and Rowntree, Drapers, Bishop Auckland.

DRAINERS.—Wanted at once, 7 or 8 Drainers. Apply Mrs Gibbon's Farm, Stillington.

FRENCH Polisher Wanted, improver or steady man. Apply to R. Parlette, 9, Silver-street, Bishop Auckland.

GUISBOROUGH School Board.—Wanted immediately, a Trained Certificated Assistant Mistress to teach large class composed of Standards V, VI, and VII. Must be a good disciplinarian, and thoroughly well qualified to teach Tonic Sol-fa and drill. Salary £90 a year. Applications, stating age, qualifications, experience, when at liberty, and accompanied by copies of testimonials (which will not be returned), to be sent to me by the 4th March. Arthur Buchannan, Clerk.—Guisborough, 13th February, 1891.

GENERAL Servant Wanted. Apply Wild Ox Hotel, Stockton-on-Tees.

GENERAL Servant Wanted. Apply Mrs Hunter, Ship Launch Inn, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant (good) Wanted. Apply Miss Thornton, Beaton Hotel, Seaton Carew.

GENERAL Servant Wanted. Apply Mrs Macdonald, Fern Cottage, Grove Hill, Middlesbrough.

GENERAL Servant Wanted. Apply Theatre Hotel, Yarm-lane, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant (good) Wanted immediately. Apply Shipwright's Arms, Stockton-street, Middlesbrough.

GENERAL Servant Wanted; able to wash; small family; references required. Edward Hind, Confectioner, Bishop Auckland.

GENERAL Servant (strong) Wanted; country girl preferred. Apply Mrs Burton, Grammar School, Yarm.

GENERAL Servant Wanted immediately; 2 in family; no baking; no washing. Miss Hayllar's, Bridge-road, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant Wanted; accustomed to children; reference required. Apply, from 6 to 8 p.m., 11, Station-terrace, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant Wanted; good plain cook; 3 in family. Address R. H., "Gazette" Office, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant (good) Wanted at once. Apply Mrs Riddle, 2, West Villas, Oxbridge lane, Stockton.

GENERAL Servant (experienced) Wanted by 17th March; also, good Nurse-Housemaid; one child; good character. Mrs H. Mellersh, Yarm.

GENERAL Servant Wanted; able to do plain cooking. Apply Mrs A. J. Nelson, 10, Hardwick-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees.

GENERAL Servant Wanted, age 15 to 20; must have good character; reference. Apply, 3 to 8, Stanley House, Seaton-terrace, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough.

GENERAL Servant (thoroughly competent) Wanted at once; no cooking required. Apply, before seven in the evening, at 69, William-street, corner of Dundas-street, Middlesbrough.

GIRL (strong, capable) Wanted; able to wash; 3 in family; reference required. Apply 41, Newcomen-street, Peterlee.

HOUSEMAID for two in family; also several Cooks, 6 Generals, and Nurse-Housemaids Wanted for the term. County Registry, Charles-street, West Hartlepool.

HOUSEMAID-WAITRESS; also, General; good character; Methodists preferred. Apply, between 10 and 12, at Middleton's, Regent Hotel, Stockton.

HOW To Make Money!—Write for samples and accept Agency for the Sale of Birks Bros' wonderful Gold Pens; agents in England Address Central Supply Stores, West Hartlepool.

JOINERY. — Apprentice Wanted. Address Z, "Gazette" Office, Stockton.

JOURNEYMAN Boot Butcher Wanted; one who can kill. Apply at work. Address W12, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

KITCHENMAID (strong) Wanted. Apply 3, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

KITCHENMAID and Cook; small family; comfortable home; good age, wage, references, Miss Wright, Derby House, Stockton.

KNITTING Machines.—Harrison Gold Medal Swift; Wanted, buying agents. Works: 48, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

MIDDLESBROUGH School Board.—Wanted, an Ex-P.T. Assistant Master for a large Boys' School; salary £50. Apply, enclosing copies of testimonials, to J. S. Calvert, School Board, Middlesbrough.

MISS HOPKINS'S Baby Linen, Ladies' and Children's Underclothing Establishment, 121, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough.

MILLINERY.—Wanted at once, Apprentices and Improvers; also, Young Lady for the Sales. Mrs M. Thompson, 1, Corporation-rd., Middlesbrough.

MILLINERS (experienced) Wanted, to manage department; state salary required. W. Pallister and Co., Haswell.

MAN (respectable) Wanted, well acquainted with the three northern counties, to represent wine and merchant business. Applications in writing by Thursday, the 19th inst., to C47, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

NORMANBY, in Eston, School Board.—Wanted, March 1st, an Assistant Master—ex-P.T.—for Normanby Boys' Department, average about 95, to assist in teaching Tonic Sol-fa, Drawing, &c.; salary £52; travelling expenses will be paid if required to attend. Applications and copies of two testimonials to me not later than first Thursday, February 19th. W. R. Thomas, Clerk, South Bank, Yorkshire.

NURSE (experienced) Wanted for one child; good needlewoman. Send full particulars, Miss Hyllar's, Bridge-road, Stockton.

NURSE-HOUSEMAID Wanted, 25, one child; also, an experienced Housemaid and plain Cook; good wages. County Registry, Charles-street, West Hartlepool.

PLAIN Cook (good) Wanted for family of two; no children; no housemaid kept. Apply, by letter, L 1, 2, Lorne-terrace, Stockton.

PAWNBROKER'S Assistant (male or female) Wanted. Apply A. Bloun, Dovecot-street, Stockton.

PAINTING Trade.—Youth, with some experience, Wanted. Apply J. Hill, House Decorator, 1, Corporation-road, Middlesbrough.

PLOUGHMAN Wanted. Apply to Wm. Lax, Carlton, Aldbrough, Darlington.

SECRETARYSHIP, local society, of good character; no pecuniary security; fair salary Address H24, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

SERVANT Wanted in Minister's House; four in family; a respectable General Servant; good plain cook; good reference required; Nonconformist kept. Apply Mrs Bogue, 6, Barrington-crescent, Stockton.

TAILORS.—Wanted, Youth as Improver. Apply M. Chapman, 9, Gilkes-street, Middlesbrough.

TO Builders at West Hartlepool.—Twelve good Building Sites For Sale, singly or in one lot, at Newton. Apply W. T. Walton, Whitby-street, West Hartlepool.

THIRD Housemaid, 15 servants; gentleman's establishment. Place apply, with particulars, Mrs Wright's Agency, Derby House, Stockton.

VACANCY for Young Lady Apprentice in Confectionery; live outdoor. For terms, &c., apply Edward Hind, Confectioner, Bishop Auckland.

WOMAN.—Good strong able Woman Wanted; to go out for daily work; good reference. Apply Mrs Howcroft, Station, Middlesbrough.

WORKING Housekeeper Wanted, widower; three children, youngest 11; country; state age and wage required. Address N13, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

Situations Vacant.

WAREH

Money and Insurance.

WILLIAM EATON,
PAWNBROKER AND SILVERSMITH,
24, ALBERT STREET, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Cash Advanced to any amount on Gold and Silver, Plate, Jewellery, Deeds, Bonds, and every other description of Negotiable Security at the lowest possible rate of interest. 5 per cent allowed on Deposits at call. Established 5½ years.

SUMS of Money at 5 per cent; book debts purchased. Mr Taylor, 65, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

CASH Advanced from £2 to £500. Apply to R. H. Foster, 33, Newport-road, Middlesbrough.

LOANS, £2 upwards; reasonable repayments; easy terms. J. Richardson, 16, Priestgate, Darlington.

TRUST and other Money to Lend on Mortgage from 4 per cent. J. T. Kay, Solicitor, West Hartlepool.

MONEY Lent at 5 per cent; Trade Bills discounted. W. Fennet, 44 Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

MONEY Lent by Carlton Bank, Ltd.; favourable terms. W. Barlow, 13 Nelson-terrace, Stockton. 17

MONEY Lent.—£2 to £500. H. Simons, 65 Grange-road West, Middlesbrough, corner of Heath-st. 14

THE safest place for respectable people to get a loan on reasonable terms without delay is at J. Willey's, Swan-street, Stockton.

PRIVATE Advances from £2 upwards on personal security. Forms apply W. T. Foxall, 1, Station-street, Mford. Hours: 9 to 1; 5 to 7; Saturday, 9 to 1.

SEVERAL Sums of Money at 4 per cent to advance on mortgage. Crosby, Farmer, and Crosby, Stockton-on-Tees.

MONEY Lent, at half the interest charged by others, without delay; no fees. M. Cohen, 9, Wellington-street, Stockton (opposite Public Library). 417

CASH Advanced on personal security, repayable by easy instalments. Trade bills discounted. A. Levy Chester House, Stockton.

LOANS.—£5 and upwards; easy repayments; strict secrecy. Apply North Riding Financial Company, 85, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

VARIOUS Sums ready to be Advanced on Freehold property. Apply T. Lewis, Solicitor, Zetland-road, Middlesbrough. 18

GUISBOROUGH AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY, established 1875, and incorporated. For particulars apply to W. ROBINSON, 55, Belmont-road, Guisborough.

MONEY privately advanced from £10 upwards at reasonable interest, payable at convenience, with or without sureties. Apply by letter to J. Wilson, 28, Durham-street, Middlesbrough.

THOSE in Want of Cash (Farmers, Clergymen, Professional Gentlemen, and others) should apply for immediate advances of £10 upwards to H. Benjamin, 97, Albert-road, Middlesbrough; no fees; no publicity.

PRIVATE.—Cash Advanced on note of hand or any other security; distance no object; terms most reasonable. Trade bills discounted. Apply to Mr J. Walker, No. 1 Zetland-road, Middlesbrough.

MONEY Lent.—Applications from town or country invited for loans from £5; terms favourable; privacy guaranteed. Carlton Bank, 1, Station-street, Middlesbrough. Hours: 10 to 1, 5 to 7; Saturdays 10 to 1.

NORTH-EASTERN Loan Office, 1, Granville-ter., Bondgate, Darlington.—Loans from £5 to £1,000; reasonable charges; easy repayments; strictly private. Jacob Selcuk, Manager.

AUCKLAND UNION PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Estab. 1857. ADVANCES at 5 per cent. Capital repaid Monthly or by fixed sums Half-yearly. Solicitors' and Inspectors' fees moderate. Geo. Stellman, 55, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.

MONEY.—A Gentleman of Private Means is willing to make Advances from £10 upwards upon Notes of hand alone, at moderate rates of interest. Apply in first instance, by letter only, to J. P., Chatham Villa, Parkroad North, Middlesbrough.

CASH Advanced on Personal Security, repayable by easy instalments to suit convenience of borrowers, at reasonable rates. No fees to pay. Trade bills discounted. Communications strictly private. Address MANAGER, 53, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

£10 to £1,000 Advanced to Ladies and Gentlemen of position, or persons holding responsible appointments; any distance; *bona-fide* advt; prospectus free; persons with ability to pay need only apply. F. Greenwood, Aldine-court, Sheffield.

THE QUEEN'S BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. SUBSCRIPTIONS received Daily, in such sum as may be convenient to Subscribers or Depositors. No entrance Fees, and no Fines to Subscribers or Depositors. Offices: 93, High-street, Stockton. (Estab. 1873.) THOS. BRADLEY, Secretary.

JOHN HARRISON, Pawnbroker and Jeweller.—The Square, Stockton; 28, Marsh-la road, South Stockton; 3, Bilsdow-street, Middlesbrough; 3, Cleveland-street, Middlesbrough. Cash advanced on Gold and Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Deeds, Shares, Pianos, Furniture, and every other description of Property. mlc

MONEY Lent Without Bill of Sale.—A Private Gentleman is desirous of making advances upon Promissory Note alone, at 5 per cent. interest, to male or female, without sureties and strictly private, for any term not exceeding 10 years. Apply for particulars to S. H. Snow, Esq., 21 John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

MONEY Lent upon Note of Hand Alone.—A Gentleman is desirous of making Advances from £5 upwards, at Five per Cent. Interest, to male or female, in town or country, without Bill of Sale or Sureties, and strictly private, for any period not exceeding ten years. Apply to D. Williams, Esq., 15, York-road, Waterloo Bridge, London, S.E.

IMMEDIATE LIFE ASSURANCE WITHOUT MEDICAL EXAMINATION, AND
LIFE ASSURANCE OMITTING THE INVESTMENT ELEMENT.
Explanatory Pamphlets in reference to the above New Scheme may be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY,
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Agents Wanted. m2

THE ADVANCE BUILDING SOCIETY, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Interest charged to Borrowers £5 per cent. and 4 per cent. allowed on all current subscriptions, which further reduces the rate payable to about 4½ per cent.
Loans repaid (principal and interest) 2s 6d per week per £100. Mortgages can be paid off at any time.
Very low legal and survey charges. Particulars on application to J. T. Kay, the Society's Solicitor; or to the Secretary,
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76, Church-street, West Hartlepool.

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19, LOMBARD-STREET, AND
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ESTABLISHED 1782.
LOWEST CURRENT RATES.
LIBERAL AND PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.
ASSURED FREE OF ALL LIABILITY.
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AGENT AT MIDDLESBROUGH:
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A MANCHESTER CAPITALIST MEMBER of a well-known and WEALTHY FIRM,
having a considerable sum of UNINVESTED MONEY, is prepared to ADVANCE THE SAME in
SUMS of NOT LESS than £20 to £1,000 to persons of undoubted respectability,
ON THEIR OWN PROMISSORY NOTE,
WITHOUT ASKING for SURETIES or SECURITY, at a
LOW and REASONABLE RATE of INTEREST, for short or long periods.
As this advertisement is not connected with any Loan Society it is requested that habitual borrowers will not apply.
For full particulars apply personally or by letter direct to the Lender,
ARTHUR WYNDHAM HADDON, Esq.,
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MANCHESTER.

STRICTLY PRIVATE ADVANCES ON MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.
MR ARCHIBALD J. MILES, SOLICITOR, 20, JOHN-STREET, ADELPHI, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.,
Having a large amount of Capital placed at his disposal, is willing to advance same in sums of £20 to £5,000 AT ONCE,
ON APPLICANT'S OWN PROMISSORY NOTE,
To responsible persons (male or female) in town or country,
WITHOUT SURETIES, LAW COSTS, OR PUBLICITY, AT 5 PER CENT. INTEREST,
Repayable by easy instalments or in one sum, or can remain at interest (payable quarterly or half-yearly) as arranged.
The advantages of applying to a Solicitor or Standing and repute in preference to advertising money-lenders, advance banks, and loan societies will be unmistakably apparent to all.
For particulars apply personally or by letter, which will have prompt and personal attention.
PRIVATE ADVANCES.
The grand secret of borrowing money is to know a thoroughly respectable office for the hour of need.
THE PROVINCIAL CREDIT BANK,
7, COOKRIDGE-STREET, LEEDS.
This Bank, opened in 1875, was the first and only Bank established in the North for the purpose of affording temporary Cash Accommodation to
BORROWER'S NOTE OF HAND ALONE.
Advances made from £10 to £1,000 to all persons of respectability (Householders, male or female) in town or country, without sureties or bondsmen, delay, law costs, or publicity, repayable by easy instalments or in one sum, as arranged. Advances made on mortgage of leasehold or freehold property, reversions, &c., from one month to five years, at
5 PER CENT. INTEREST.
SPECIAL NOTICE.—This Bank, noted for its fair dealing and reasonable charges, is not connected with any advertising Loan Societies, and the usual objectionable Loan Office routine is entirely dispensed with. The strictest secrecy may safely be relied upon, and no good or genuine application is ever refused.
MR CHARLES HENRY JAMES, Manager.

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SOPPET, 52, LINTHORPE - ROAD,
Has the Largest and Best STOCK of
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, AND SILVER GOODS in the Town.
The most efficient staff of workmen in the North.
All work done on the premises. No Apprentices kept

DON'T YOU FEEL WELL?—I DON'T!
Get a Bottle of
STOREY'S PICK-ME-UP RESTORATIVE BITTERS.
It's the World's Best Tonic. It Pulls you up like Magic.
In bottles at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.
Prepared only by
WM. STOREY, Dartmouth, SOUTH HARBOUR.
Sold by all Chemists. Wholesale by Messrs JOHN ISMAY AND SON, NEWCASTLE; Mr JOHN HARRISON, SUNDERLAND.

CURE FOR TIC-DOLOREUX,
OR PAIN IN THE FACE,
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BARLOW'S CELEBRATED POWDERS quickly remove these painful complaints. They contain nothing injurious, but are conducive to health and invigorating. Testimonials from well-known Philanthropists, Medical Men, Military Officers, Clergy, and other Ministers, who have given extensive distribution to this sterling remedy, post free.
The Powders are sent, post paid, on receipt of letter stamps, by SAMUEL BARLOW, Chemist, Darlington, and sold by most Chemists in packets at 2s 9d, 1s 6d, and 1s 1½d each.

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Suitable for every class of Buyers.

DINING, DRAWING, AND SITTING ROOM SUITES,
In Oak, Walnut, Rosewood, and Mahogany Frame covered in Morocco, Roan, Pig Skins, Saddle Bags, Silk Brocatelle, Embossed Velvet, and Tapestries. A Grand Choice.

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Over 60 in Stock to Select from.

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BARGAINS UNPRECEDENTED
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FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.
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YOUR CHOICE OF
£15,000
WORTH OF DRAPERIES
(CALICOES EXCEPTED)
AT A DISCOUNT OF
3/- IN THE £ FOR CASH
AT
J. NEWHOUSE'S
DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,
WILSON-STREET.
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MIXED PARCELS.
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Cope's, Hignett's, Ogden's, Taddy, Wills's, Phillips's, Player's, Murray's, Lambert and Butler's, Goodwin's, Bell's, &c.

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Goodwin's, Duke's, Wills's, Player's, Lambert and Butler's, Cope's, Hignett's, &c.

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Havanna, Mexican, and Manilla Cigars at Importers' prices.
British Cigars, from 4/6 to 20/- per 100 all carefully selected.

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Irish Roll, Target, Shag, Cake, and Cut Cavendish, and every description of Cut Tobaccos at Lowest Prices.

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Tobacconists' Fancy Goods at current rates.

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WHOLESALE TOBACCONISTS,
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Mention this paper.

A QUIET CHAT.

Said Mrs Brown to Mrs Jones,
When sitting at their tea,
"I wish, just as a friend, you know
That you would tell to me
How comes it, though your husband earns
A smaller wage than mine,
My house and home so squalid looks,
While yours does fairly shine?,
I spend the money carefully,
One penny I don't waste,
And yet I cannot have a home
To suit my husband's taste."
"Well I," said Mrs Jones, "was once
Just placed the same as you,
Until a friend came in one day,
And placed before my view
A Price List from the "Eagle,"
From my mind she took a load,
And I paid a visit with her
To their Stores in Newport-road.
Their Prices quite astonished me,
I could scarce believe my eyes,
As the Goods were so superior,
I was taken by surprise.
I can't explain the reason well,
But still, through many a test,
The fact is clear, the "Eagle" Goods
Are the cheapest and the best.
Their Furniture beats all in town,
My statement I can prove;
Since they've given me a happy home,
I've strengthened my husband's love.

THE
EAGLE FURNISHING CO.,
COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS,
30, NEWPORT-ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.

LUNG TONIC — *SAVE YOUR LIVES BY TAKING* OWBRIDGE'S LUNG TONIC, THE MIGHTY HEALER.
It has a power over disease hitherto unknown to medicine.
Are you at all Weak-Chested or inclined to be Consumptive, with just a touch of Cough now and then?
"Try this Wonderful Medicine." The Cough and Weakness will disappear as if by magic, and you will feel a strength and power you never had before.
HAVE YOU A COUGH?
A DOSE WILL RELIEVE IT.
HAVE YOU A COLD?
A DOSE AT BEDTIME WILL REMOVE IT.
Bronchitis and Asthma it relieves instantly.
The Spasms of Coughing so dreadful in Whooping Cough become less with each dose of the medicine.
Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE,
CHEMIST, HULL.
Sold in bottles, 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, 4s 6d, and 11s, of all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors. Wholesale all London and Provincial Houses.

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PREVIOUS TO PULLING DOWN AND REBUILDING WAREHOUSES.
REDUCTIONS IN THE PRICES OF PROVISIONS.

HINTON'S
CROWN BRAND BACON.
WHOLE SIDES 4d PER LB.
PRIME SHOULDERS 3½d PER LB.

HINTON'S
FINEST SUGAR-CURED HAMS, 5½d PER LB.
PURE LARD, 4d PER LB.
PRIME DANISH BUTTER, 1/1 PER LB.
CHOICEST DANISH BUTTER, 1/2 PER LB.

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10, 12, & 14, SOUTH-ST., CORPORATION-RD.,
MIDDLESBROUGH;
NELSON-ST.,
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FEBRUARY SALE.
Stockton-on-Tees,
February, 1891.
WATSON, SONS, DIXON, & CO.
Beg to announce that their ANNUAL SALE IS NOW PROCEEDING, and that their Reliable Stock in all departments is being submitted at Great Reductions in prices to induce a clearance, particularly in Silks, Satins, Dress Materials (black and coloured); Drapery, Linens, Flannels, Mantles, Furs, Millinery, Ladies' Underclothing, &c.; Carpets, Tapestry and Chenille Curtains, Linoleums, &c., &c.
Inspection respectfully solicited.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES
OFFERED DURING THE SALE.
All Carpets Made and Laid Free of Charge
All Linoleums Fitted Free of Charge } *DURING THE SALE.*
We submit our Entire Stock at Reduced Prices
All Goods offered are our own Regular Stock
No Inferior Goods Purchased for Sale Purposes.
Terms: Net Cash, or 3 Months Approved Credit.

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STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Telegrams—Watsons Dixon. Telephone—No. 4,501.
Closed on Saturdays at 2 o'clock.

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DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.
DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA.
DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
For acidity of the Stomach.
For Heartburn and Headache.
For Gout and Indigestion.
DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
Safest and most gentle aperient for delicate constitutions, Ladies, Children, and Infants.
SOLD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

S. DARBYSHIRE'S PURE TEA.

FINE,	THE	FINE,
FRAGRANT,	CUP	FRAGRANT,
FAULTLESS,	OF	FAULTLESS,
1/10.	HEALTH.	1/10.

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MIDDLESBROUGH.

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SYMINGTON'S
EDINBURGH
COFFEE
ESSENCES.
EDINBURGH, 1890.

CULA BALSAM — CURES COUGHS
Sold by all Chemists. — CURES COUGHS

FITS. EPILEPSY OR FALLING SICKNESS.
If you want to be permanently and speedily cured of this distressing complaint, discard prejudice, and write to THE SECRETARY, Burwood House, Burwood-place Hyde Park, London. He will send you "*Gratis*" full instructions for cure, and advice on diet.

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SHAVING. ALBION MILK AND SULPHUR SOAP,
SHAVING. which yields a firm, creamy, and refreshing lather, softening the beard, preventing the irritation so often caused by delicate skins in shaving, and rendering the passage of the razor rapid and easy.
SHAVING. As a Toilet Soap it is unequalled. Delicately perfumed. Sold by all dealers in
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E. H. MASON'S WATCH, CLOCK, AND JEWELLERY CLUB. SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM ONE SHILLING PER WEEK.
JOIN AT ANY TIME.
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EPPS'S (BREAKFAST) COCOA. GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING. MADE SIMPLY WITH BOILING WATER OR MILK.

SMITH'S PIANOS, 179, OXFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER.
PIANOS (new) from 10s 6d monthly } TILL
ORGANS " 5s 6d " } PAID
HARMONIUMS " 5s " } FOR.
Second-hand instruments at lower rates.
Nothing supplied but what is of the highest quality. Delivered free within 100 miles on receipt of first month's hire.
Write or send for price list (post free), or, what is better still, call on SMITH personally if possible. Railway fare allowed to country customers.

JOHN BUCHANAN,
HANOVER-SQUARE BREWERY,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
AGENCIES:
A. B. WALKER AND SONS' BURTON ALES.
BALLINGALL'S FAMOUS STOUT.

DISEASED BONES *By the use of* CURED
CLAYTON'S PATENT BALM, useful in every household for Scalds, Sores, Rheumatism, &c. All Chemists, 1s 1½d, or 1s 4½d post free from Clayton, Bonesetter, Felling, and 95, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION FOR ENGLISH SINGERS.—Madame Nordica, Mr Santley, and Mr Lloyd graciously gave their services last evening in connection with a concert at the Leeds Town Hall on behalf of the Railway Servants' Orphans' Fund. The hall was crowded, and the concert was a great success. To show their appreciation of the services of these distinguished artistes the members of the fund organised a torchlight procession, and escorted them to their hotel.

To make the white pieces whiter, Coloured Pieces brighter, and Flannels softer than they can be made by washing the old way, and to leave every article as clean and sweet-smelling as pure as if never worn, use "SUNLIGHT SOAP."—ADVT.

LIVER COMPLAINTS.—DR. King's Dandelion and Quinine Liver Pills, without Mercury, are a potent remedy; remove all Liver and Stomach Complaints, Biliousness, Headache, Sickness, Shoulder Pains, Heartburn, Indigestion, Constipation.—ADVT.

For Cruets, Teapots, Knives, Forks, Spoons, and Electro Plate, &c., Poole's, Middlesbrough, is the best shop.—ADVT.

HATS, UMBRELLAS, SHIRTS, AND GLOVES.—For the best value and largest stocks try Snaith, 20, Wilson-street, Middlesbrough.—ADVT.

THE WEDDING RING.—When bought at Collingwood's, the old-established firm, the purchaser receives a handsome present.—ADVT.

CHLORO-LINSEED Cough Lozenges, post free, 7d. Of Chem sts.—ADVT.

KAY'S COMPOUND Essence of Linseed, Aniseed, Senega, Squill, Tolu, with Chlorodyne, 2s 9d.—ADVT.

HAVE YOU A PAIN ANYWHERE?—ALLCOCK'S PLASTER is the remedy.—ADVT.

North-Eastern Daily Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1891.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

WHETHER or not Sir John Macdonald has shown a true and a wise patriotism in raising the question of the maintenance of Imperial unity in connection with the present General Election in the Dominion of Canada, no doubt can be entertained as to the party advantage he has achieved. A truly patriotic statesman ought never to make loyalty difficult to his opponents. Yet the immediate practical purpose of Sir John Macdonald's appeal to the electors of Canada seems to have been to embarrass his Liberal opponents by a charge of disloyalty to the empire. We are inclined to think that on the whole the Conservative Premier's plan of campaign exhibits more of the audacity and cleverness of the electoral tactician than of the broad generous instincts of the Imperial statesman. But whether Sir John really places his party or the Imperial connection first, or simply uses patriotic feeling in favour of the Imperial connection and against annexation to the United States for the purpose of advancing the electoral interests of his party, there seems ground for anticipating that both interests will be benefited. While the so-called Conservative party in Canada is being revived and strengthened by its identification with the pro-British policy, the so-called Liberal party has found it necessary to minimise, if not entirely to repudiate, its policy of bringing Canada and the United States into a closer and more mutually trustful relation with a view to an ultimate if not, indeed, an early amalgamation. It is possible, indeed, that the Liberal leaders are held back and discouraged as much by the unwillingness of the Republican party in the United States to commit itself to a Unionist or an Annexationist programme as by the charges or exposures made by Sir John Macdonald and his friends.

It cannot be denied that there has of late been considerable parleying or tentative negotiation between the United States Republicans and the Canadian Liberals. It is notorious that one of the designs of the McKinley Tariff Act was to drive Canada into the acceptance of a commercial union with the United States, as a first step towards political assimilation. Unfortunately for the spread-eagleism of Mr Blaine, the McKinley Act has brought as yet nothing but political disaster for his party and commercial disappointment and loss for the mass of his fellow-countrymen, though it may have temporarily benefited the shopkeeping classes and strengthened the position of the capitalists. The Americans, as a whole, have been taught by the operation of the McKinley Act to distrust Mr Blaine's commercial policy, and the discredit from which that daring Minister is now suffering makes him, as a shrewd party manipulator rather than a statesman, indisposed to travel further on the line marked out by the McKinley policy. Moreover, the agricultural classes in the Western States are making it evident that they do not want the Canadian farmers to be granted free entrance into the American markets, and Mr Blaine is not in a position at present to quarrel with the Grangers, whose political organisation is now sufficiently powerful to give victory to the Democrats if the Republicans should offend them. There is, therefore, less disposition on the part of Mr Blaine and his colleagues at Washington to favour a commercial or a Customs union with Canada than there was a few months ago; and Sir John Macdonald's charge of disloyalty to the British throne and the Empire comes with all the greater force at the present moment because the Liberal leaders are unable to show any substantial advantage, or even promise of such, from their policy of submission to Washington. In short, Sir John Macdonald, taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the backwardness of Mr Blaine in giving the Canadian Liberals the pledges or guarantees they desired, has cut the ground from underneath the feet of his political opponents. Their intention was to submit to the country a programme which would give the promise of an easy and an immediate settlement of all pending disputes with the United States, and the opening up of markets across the St. Lawrence for the disposal of Canadian produce. Sir John Macdonald anticipated them by proclaiming his intention, after the General Election, to send a Commission to Washington to seek the settlement of the fishery disputes, and to arrange, if possible, a scheme of commercial relation mutually advantageous to the United States and to Canada, but on the basis of the maintenance of the political independence and integrity of the Dominion as a portion of the British Empire. In other words, he undertook to seek to secure all the advantages hoped for by the Liberals, and at the same time to maintain the British connection, which for Canada means practical independence.

With all his professions of regard for the British connection and the British Empire Sir John Macdonald is not a Free Trader. But he refuses to countenance or assist a commercial policy with the United States which would "discriminate" against the Mother Country. He will not concede to his neighbours across the St. Lawrence advantages which he denies to Britain. He should, however, go a step or two further. In the opinion of the soundest of political economists he would immensely strengthen his position as an Imperial statesman and give an enormous impulse to Canadian commerce by adopting as his answer to the McKinley Act a policy of unrestricted Free Trade. It is believed that the foreign traders whom the Americans are endeavouring to shut out of their markets would gladly provide a much larger market for the disposal of Canadian produce than can be found even in the United States if the Canadians were to abolish their protective tariff. Capital would flow into the country; the natural resources of Canada, which are of untold value, would be developed; population and industries would alike rapidly increase; and the Dominion would experience a development of wealth and prosperity quite as remarkable as that which during the past thirty or forty years has been witnessed in the United States. Sir John Macdonald, however, is restrained from taking the tide at the flood very much by the same considerations which tie the hands of Mr Blaine at Washington. The farmers, who would be the first to benefit from the adoption of a Free Trade policy in Canada, are strong Protectionists, and Imperialist though he be, the Canadian Premier cannot afford to alienate their political support. The golden vision which the political economists hold before the Canadians as an inducement for the adoption of Free Trade cannot, therefore, for the present move Sir John Macdonald. The principles of Free Trade are evidently making way in Canada as well as in the United States, but the time for their full application is not yet.

Meanwhile, let Canada believe in its future and maintain its independence. It is the largest and, in some respects, the most valuable of the estates forming the British Empire, and therefore the Canadians need not fear that either they or their country will ever be lightly regarded in England. If at any time they should decide to throw off the British connection, or seek union with the United States, Britain would not seek to compel a restoration of allegiance by force of arms. But under existing conditions, for the sake of the Empire and for the sake of the Canadians themselves, the British Government are anxious and willing to assist in the development of a Dominion which exceeds even the United States in the extent of area, which is probably richer in natural wealth, and which has commercial and political possibilities perhaps quite as great as those possessed by the neighbouring and presently more enterprising Republic. It lies in the way, or rather forms part, of the quickest route from Western Europe to Eastern Asia and Australia. The time may not be far distant when its railway lines, stretching from ocean to ocean, may be utilised as parts of an inter-continental railway which will unite the two hemispheres at Behring Straits. For the present it has to decide between union with the United States and union with Great Britain; and we have as little doubt that its decision will be in favour of the maintenance of the British connection as we have in the continuance of that connection as the best security for the rapid and full development of its resources, and the realisation of its great commercial and political future.

THE Tithes Bill is threatened with opposition in the Upper House. The Tory landlords do not like it, and though they do not care to express their dislike in presence of "the terrible Marquis," who is the real promoter of the measure, their sympathies and desires have found an exponent in a Liberal Unionist Peer, who in many respects is more Tory than themselves. Lord Brabourne has given notice of his intention to move the rejection of the measure; and, though perhaps he may not be able to rally a large following of Peers ready to vote against the Government, it is not at all likely he will be confronted by a united Ministerialist phalanx. It is expected that when the Bill is called for second reading a large number of Tory Peers will be conspicuous by their absence.

THE Government are the successors of the Hohenzollern Elector who claimed to be *super grammaticam*. Having extracted from Mr John Morley's resolution the words of censure, they are content to let it stand on the records of the House thus:—"That in the opinion of the House the action of the Irish Executive in connection with recent prosecutions at Tipperary and other proceedings ——." Of course their original intention was to substitute for the excised words of censure the eulogistic terms of Mr T. W. Russell's amendment. But the promptitude of Mr Healy and the firmness of Sir William Harcourt prevented that little job being done on Monday night, and now the Government are indisposed to reopen a discussion in order to have the record put into the form they had contemplated. Accordingly they propose to shirk further debate, and to leave the opinion of the House on their conduct at Tipperary officially unexpressed.

MR J. HENNIKER-HEATON has got another feather in his cap. He has obtained returns showing that what he somewhat contemptuously describes as the "twopenny-halfpenny" reduced rate of postage from Australia has already proved a signal success. By the first mail to England under the new postal charges the number of letters, compared with the previous mail, was doubled. The increase from the other Colonies varied from 20 to 50 per cent., while there has been a very large augmentation in the business from this side. Mr Henniker-Heaton pertinently asks, "What would the increase of correspondence be if we were to reach the masses by establishing a penny post between England and Australia?" The day is not far distant when the boon Mr J. Henniker-Heaton has worked for in season and out of season will be enjoyed, and we have not the slightest doubt that the result will be profitable to the Post Office.

THE question has been asked—How can the establishment of a Parliament in Dublin relieve the pinch of poverty and distress in Connemara, in Donegal, or reduce agrarian crime in Kerry? The answer is that it will at least bring the people into touch and sympathy with the Government. The solution of the problem is not an easy one, and it may not be immediate. But there are signs of hope easily discernible. The expense of governing Ireland under coercive methods is enormous. If we have a peaceful and contented Ireland it is not unreasonable to suppose that hundreds of thousands of pounds now spent unproductively in the maintenance of an excessive police and military force would be set free for the development of the material resources of the country, for the construction, it may be, of light, cheaply-managed State railways, for the development of easy means of communication, for the increase of intercourse between town and country, for the conveyance of produce to profitable markets. Native ability, too, would find the means of employment, and legitimate ambition would find an outlet and a reward.

PRINCE BISMARCK is in danger. Out of office he is persisting in a course of conduct which when he was in office he condemned and punished as treason to the State. The criticisms of the Government policy which he is claiming the right to make, and the exposures which he is from time to time giving of what, if he had remained Chancellor, he would have regarded as State secrets, are offences against the Prussian system and traditions far more heinous than any of which the late and unfortunate Count Von Arnim was ever guilty; and it is hinted that the Emperor's patience is all but exhausted. It is stated that at a recent Parliamentary dinner given by General Caprivi His Majesty condemned the conduct of the ex-Chancellor "in no measured terms." Political observers remember that before the fall of Prince Bismarck the Emperor significantly declared he would crush everyone who stood in his way, and lately the fallen Chancellor has put himself very much in the way of his imperious-minded royal master. In some quarters it is supposed that Prince Bismarck is seeking to hasten a Ministerial or a Constitutional crisis, which he hopes will necessitate his recall to the Chancellorship. But those who know the young Emperor best believe he will not hesitate, if necessary, to place himself between the Reichstag and his Government, and himself strike down the man who is supposed to be conspiring the overthrow of his own chosen Chancellor, General Caprivi. Frederick the Great could speak at times with great sharpness to his veteran commanders and make them feel the resistlessness of his authority; and the present Emperor William is known to be an intense admirer, if not an imitator, of Frederick the Great.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY.—Send your Umbrellas to R. A. Watson, The Hatter, to be re-covered; prices from 2s 6d. Satisfaction guaranteed. F. H. O.—ADVT.

"SAPO-LIN," containing Linseed Jelly, is a perfumed Emulsive Toilet Soap. Of Chemists.—ADVT

LONDON NOTES.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE AND EXTRACTS, &c.]
LONDON, Wednesday.

The Government majority of 75 is the smallest they have yet had on any important issue affecting the administration of the law in Ireland. They cannot be said to have scored by supporting the amendment of Mr T. W. Russell instead of following the usual custom and opposing Mr Morley's motion with a direct negative. Mr Russell's amendment is now in a condition of suspended animation, and is likely to remain so.

The meeting of the Parnellite party yesterday was altogether of a business character, the only speech of any length being that of Mr Parnell himself, who described the course of the Boulogne negotiations. Some of Mr Parnell's chief supporters altogether repudiate the suggestion that he or they are actuated by any feeling of hostility to Mr Gladstone or the Liberal party, or that there is any wish or intention to interfere with the employment of the Irish vote in favour of the Liberals. As to the proposal by Mr M'Carthy's party that the balance of the Parliamentary Fund should be devoted to the support of the evicted tenants, it is said that Mr Parnell made a statement, and that the matter must form the subject of communications between him and Mr M'Carthy. Several members of both sections left by mail last night to start operations in Ireland, and Mr Parnell will follow on Saturday.

When Mr Howard Vincent rose to move his resolution proposing a colonial conference, he had an audience which scattered all possibility of a count out. There were more than forty members on each side, the two front benches being well represented. Mr Staveley Hill seconded the motion, and was followed by Sir Lyon Playfair, who delivered one of his customary interesting speeches, listened to with much attention. Mr Vincent's motion received very little support from his own side, but had it been carried to a division it would have been rather awkward for many members as putting them in the false position of appearing not to wish for closer relations with the colonies. Mr Howard Vincent being appealed to, asked leave to withdraw his motion. But the Radicals would not have this, and the question was being put from the chair, when Mr Smith rose and moved what is known as "the previous question." This is the motion "That the question be not now put." This was agreed to without a division, and thus the sitting ended somewhat comically, and without any definite result.

There were rumours last night of a fresh divorce scandal affecting a prominent person in political life. The details are said to be piquant in a high degree.

The Taxing Master in the House of Lords has given a certificate ordering that the sum of £820 shall be paid by the promoter. Dr. Hakes, in the unsuccessful appeal to the House of Lords in the Bell-Cox case. *Per contra*, Mr Bell Cox has to pay Dr. Hakes's costs in the proceedings before Lord Penzance.

The Maharajah of Mysore will be accompanied on his visit to England in the summer by his Diwan, or Primier, as well as by a distinguished private friend, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, C.I.E.—"the Madras Peabody," as he has been styled,—and a numerous suite. It is probable that the editor of *Hindu*, an advanced social and political reformer, will also form one of his Highness's party.

In consequence of the suggestion thrown out by the Lord-Advocate, in his reply to Mr James with regard to the huge bird-nesting scheme in the Shetlands, emanating from Birmingham, Mr Wilson Noble has decided to move an instruction to the Committee on Mr Arthur Pease's Wild Birds' Protection Bill, extending the provisions of the measure to wild birds' eggs. This proposal, if adopted, will render the suggested foray across the Border illegal, but in all probability the great publicity given to the matter has already killed the expedition.

One of the most interesting of the minor exhibitions held last year in London was the display of art brass work and steel in connection with the Armourers and Braziers' Company. The affair was so successful that it is to be repeated this year from May 12 to 16 on somewhat extended lines. Women are this year to be allowed to compete for the prizes which are offered for all kinds of art brass and metal work. In addition to the awards offered to adults prizes will be given to apprentices and students, and also to amateurs, and a special prize of £30 will fall to the lot of the craftsman who shall design and execute the best work in the exhibition.

A conference was held yesterday afternoon at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, to discuss the subject of women's work in the churches as set forth in a paper on "The Ministry of Women," by Mrs Braden, wife of the late Rev. W. Braden, of the Weigh-house Church. Mrs Braden offered a suggestion for influencing the young in the shape of "open homes for boys"—lads of 15 to 20 years of age—an idea which she has seen successfully carried out in at least one instance. A young matron set apart one evening in each week to entertain boys lodging in that part of London where she resided, especially such as had left homes in the country to enter upon business life in the capital. The lads came straight from business to tea, which was followed by games and music. For young maid servants she advocates a similar plan with modifications. Another suggestion was the official oversight of a certain portion of every congregation by ladies duly appointed, a custom which has already found favour in some churches, each lady having charge of a number of pews, and making it her business to know the families and individuals who occupy them. House-to-house visitation of non-churchgoers and a mission to "street corner groups

THE NORTH-EASTERN DAILY GAZETTE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1891.

FIFTH EDITION

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY AT A HOTEL.

WIFE MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A London correspondent telegraphs—Last night William Stafford, manager of the Falcon Hotel, Stone, Staffordshire, killed his wife by blowing out her brains with a charge from a double-barrelled gun, and then shot himself dead. The bodies were found by the police lying in front of the bar in the vaults. The parties apparently lived on good terms, but lately built only child died, and the husband had since given way to drink.

THE FAILURE OF AN IRISH M.P.

The accounts issued to-day under the failure of Garrett O'Malley Byrne, M.P., for West Wicklow show a gross liability of £37,103, and assets £17,716.

THE IMPRISONMENT OF MESSRS O'BRIEN AND DILLON.

Mr William O'Brien is confined in an ordinary cell in Tullamore Gaol, and is in good health. Mr Dillon, however, is indisposed, and has been removed to the prison infirmary. Both gentlemen wear their own clothes, and take exercise in the prison yard apart from ordinary criminals.

THE IRISH DISTRESS.

INSUFFICIENT RELIEF MEASURES.

Mr Healy writes to the *Irish Times* stating that the relief last week on the west coast, and found that in Westport Union Colony 200 tons of seed potatoes had been contracted for, though the population is 40,000 and the price of the seed is four pounds a normal price. The road repairing works appear so far as he could judge from cursory inspection, a sham, a burlesque. It will be necessary to keep the relief works running till June.

WORK AND WAGES IN THE CLEVELAND MINES.

The Joint Committee, consisting of nineowners' and miners' representatives met at the mine-owners' offices, Middlesbrough yesterday, Mr D. Lloyd in the chair, when the following cases were considered:—The men at Normanby mine sought an advance of 3d per ton for working on the night shift, and 2d per ton for cutting off and throwing down sulphur. The men at Ormesby mine asked for a substantial advance all through the mine. The men at Skelton shaft working in Park-road seam ought to recover 2d per ton which the manager had taken off owing to communication "broken" with the Wrinkle seam working in some portion of Longacres mine, but in a claim for 1d per ton advance. The manager put in several counter claims for reductions in the same mine. The owners of Brotton mine sought to reduce the tonnage rate by 1d per ton in the Whitaside district.—The whole of these cases were put into the hands of referees with full power to effect a settlement.

THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

SIR HENRY JAMES'S BILL.

In the House of Commons to-day petitions in favour of Sir Henry James's Factory and Workshops Act (1878) Amendment Bill were presented from a considerable number of districts in Lancashire.—In moving the second reading of the Bill, Sir Henry James detailed the steps by which the Bill had grown out of an agitation, set on foot some years ago by the textile operatives of Lancashire and Yorkshire, with respect to the presence of women in factories. The chief points aimed at by the operatives were that better provision should be made for the sanitary condition of the factories, that dangerous machinery should be more carefully fenced, and that there should be greater facilities for ascertaining the amount of wages due to the operatives on the piece work system. It was also desired that there should be a minimum penalty fixed in cases where offences had been committed against the Act, since there was a prevalent idea that on occasions merely nominal fines had been inflicted.

COLLIERY BOILER MINDERS AND FIREMEN.

(To the Editor of the North-Eastern Daily Gazette.)

SIR,—It was with pleasure that I read in your issue of Monday the report of the miners' mass meeting at Trimdon, especially that part regarding firemen's hours. There is one thing I cannot understand—viz., how firemen are so slow in coming forward to help reforms so near their hearts—how they will sit by and watch the miners advocate their cause and themselves do so little. Every credit is due to the miners of the county of Durham for the way they have taken up this case of late, and all the more so because never yet has a fireman come forward and given the public a few real facts of the case from a fireman's point of view. The case is black enough as it has been set forward by the miners, but it is not nearly so black as it should be. Messrs Jones and Cone made some touching remarks about hard hands &c., but on reading them one cannot but think that they know very little about the nature of miners's work, and that it is their sympathy and brotherly love that prompts them to appeal so earnestly to their fellowmen on behalf of this downtrodden British slave. I would like to see firemen and boys come out of the front yard, work seven days per week and twelve hours per day—for they are privileged who have only to work six days per week, and doubly so who are allowed to go home an hour or two sooner on a Saturday. Our work with its extremes of temperature, soon forces the strength from the strongest youth, and seems the fathers of families to an early grave. In fact it is the hardest bodily labour connected with the mines. Yet with the long hours and heavy work firemen are not treated with respect the same as other men, but are picked at by those above them time and time again. Who can be surprised at the disrespect and abuse shown to them since they respect not themselves?—I am, yours, &c.,

A FIREMAN.

Fence Houses, Feb. 17th, 1891.

A STOCKTON GUARDIAN AND THE RELIEVING OFFICER.

This morning, at the meeting of the Stockton Board of Guardians, Mr G. M. Watson, J.P., presiding, Mr Henry Smith desired to draw attention to the case of an old woman named Thompson, who lived at Hartburn. He said he drew the attention of Mr Cairns, the Relieving Officer to her case, and told him distinctly that if he could not give her relief legally whatever he had to do in the matter Mr Smith would refuse it. He had had Mr Cairns visited the woman, but he did not offer her any relief, but said he would give her some groceries. She afterwards told him she could not come to Stockton for groceries—a woman of 87 yrs. of age—and if it were not for the neighbours going in some bread and a occasionally she would die of starvation. He gave notice that at next meeting he should move that the Clerk lay before the Guardians the number of pauper houses Mr Cairns visited, and also the number of marriages he registers, and the amount of remuneration he got for it. Mr Cairns explained that Ann Thompson, aged 87 years, a widow, residing in Hartburn, an applicant for relief, had two sons—viz., James, aged 2 years, who was deaf and dumb, a farm servant and single, and who paid the rent of his lodgings, 4s per year; and Thomas, aged 46 years, also deaf and dumb, married, no family, living with his mother, and earning 20s per week. Mr Smith called his attention to the case on the afternoon of Thursday, the 5th last with a request that he would grant the old woman some relief in kind until the next meeting of the Board, which he promised to do if he found that necessary. He visited the old woman on Friday, the 6th inst., and from the information which he then received he did not consider the case one of destitution or urgency, and therefore did not consider it right in kind or even offer an order for the Board to grant, and for this he was on Monday last found fault with by Mr Smith, who not only threatened to report him, but also that he would watch him in future, and whenever he had an opportunity would "go for me." Mr Smith also said that "there had been many people who had died of starvation through you charge"—a statement he (Mr Watson) thought was entirely uncalled for, and so far as it applied to him he repudiated it emphatically denied it. His object in bringing the matter personally under the notice of the Guardians was to ask the protection of the Board from further intimidation by individual Guardians, and he should not interfere or give orders to an officer whilst he was discharging his duties faithfully, and as the law required.—Alderman Craggs, J.P., said the matter was before the Relief Committee in the previous night, and they did not feel justified in giving any relief other than an order for the Workhouse. The old woman lived with her wife, and his mother living with him, and the rent paid by another brother, and his earnings were 20s a week.—Mr H. Smith, J.P., took it from the wages book, and the man only got 19s 6d a week.—The Chairman: There is a big difference between your statement and Mr Smith's.—Mr Smith: I am willing to say as to people having been starved, he knew that people had starved on the streets of Stockton and got no relief. He said to the officer: "The next time I come across I will have the law of you."—These cases were paid to look after these cases and they could not find time, they had so many houses to visit.—Mr Cairns, in reply to the chairman, said he went to Messrs Foster, Brotherton, and Co.'s office, where the men were employed, and found that his average wage for the month preceding 7th February was 20s 6d.—Alderman Nelson, J.P., thought there were hundreds of cases worse than this. Plenty of people who had a pound a week had a family to keep with it, besides having rent to pay. Mr Cuthbert thought Mr Smith ought to have brought the case to the Relief Committee, of which he was a member.—Mr Cairns called upon Mr Smith to withdraw the insinuation that he was the cause of people starving.—Mr Smith: I did not say you particularly.—Mr Cairns: You said "You did—what did that mean?—Mr Smith: I did not refer particularly to you. I said if any case came to my notice I'd have the law of you.—The matter then dropped, Mr Smith persisting in asking the Clerk to take his notice of motion.

MANY PEOPLE ARE DECEIVED into buying adulterated soaps because they do not look to see that the registered Trade Mark "Sunlight Soap" is on the wrapper and Tablet. "Sunlight Soap" is guaranteed pure.—Advt.

Evening Dress Ties, Gloves, Shirts, Vest &c. H. Pilcher's, 27, Linthorpe-road.—Advt.

Have You A Cough?—Apply at once an Allcock's Plaster.—Advt.

THE WHITECHAPEL MURDER.

THE RESUMED INQUEST.

Yesterday morning Mr Wynne Baxter resumed the inquest on the murdered woman Frances Coles. Mr Charles Matthews, barrister, was present, acting for the Public Prosecutor.

James Coles, a pauper in the Bermondsey Workhouse, identified the deceased as his youngest daughter, aged about 26. She visited him last on February 6th. He did not know she was living an immoral life, and she deceived him as to her address.

Mary Ann Coles, 32, Wear-street, Kingsland-road, sister of the deceased, also identified the body. She last saw her on Boxing Day. She was in good health, but looked very poor, and was very dirty. Witness gave her some tea. She told witness she was working for a chemist in the Minories, but that the work was painful, and caused lumps on her knuckles. She said she earned from 6s to 7s a week.

Peter Lorenzo Hawkes, assistant to his mother, who keeps a milliner's shop at Bethnal Green, spoke to the purchase there of a hat, for which deceased gave 1s 11½d. After he told her the price of it she went outside the shop and went away a short distance with a man (the prisoner, who had been looking into the window). After walking away with the man she returned into the shop alone and tendered 2s. He gave her the hat and one halfpenny change. At that time she was wearing a black crape hat.—A juryman: Was she sober when she came to the shop?—She was what I should call "three sheets in the wind." (Laughter.)—By the Coroner: I at once identified the man when shown him at the Police Station.

Charles Cyver said: I am a night watchman at the common lodging-house 8, White's-row, Spitalfields. I have lived there this last four years. For the past three years I have known a woman who has gone by the name of "Frances." She came to the house as a casual lodger, staying there a night at a time. She would sometimes come twice a week, and then not come for a time.

Emanuel Lewis said: I am a fish-curer, employed by Mr Wm. Abrahams, 50, Virginia-road, Bethnal Green. Last Thursday evening I was lodging at 8, White's-row, Spitalfields. About half-past nine on the night I arrived home and on going into the kitchen saw deceased sitting by the fire with her head on the table as if asleep. About half-past eleven, while we were both there, a man dressed as a sailor came into the kitchen and looked round. He then sat down by the side of Frances on a form. He asked her if she had any money for the lodging, to which she replied, "No, unless you become a sailor-replied, 'No.'" He then said "I have been robbed. If I knew who had done it I would do for them." He asked me if I would let him go up to bed till to-morrow morning, thinking I was the governor of the house. He showed me a certificate showing that he was entitled to £4 odd. I told him I had nothing to do with the letting of beds. He then asked me to mind the certificate till the morning, and I told him I could not do it. About half-past 12 the man left the house, and came back four minutes afterwards I saw Frances go out, after putting a black crape hat under her dress. She also wore a hat. I went to bed about a quarter to two, and saw nothing more that night of the man or the woman. The next I saw of her was at the Mortuary, where I identified her dead body on the afternoon of Friday, the 13th.

The Coroner: When did you next see that man?—When I caught him (Sensation.) That was about half-past eleven on Saturday morning, in the Phœnix public, Upper East Smithfields. He was drinking in the house alone, and I was accompanied to the Phœnix by two police-constables to whom I had given information previously. I went inside the house alone and identified the man at once. I then went outside and spoke to the constables. One of them went into the house and I remained outside with the other some distance off. The man came out with the constable, and he and the two constables proceeded to the Leman-street Station. I am positive that this was the man whom I saw in the kitchen of the lodging-house on the night in question. I took the man's right hand and he had been robbed I noticed a scar over the left eye. It was bleeding, and appeared to be a fresh one. When I saw him in the Phœnix on Saturday he had, in addition to this mark, two black eyes and a cut on the head, which also bled. It was on the right hand side. I did not notice stains of blood on the man's clothes before he left the lodging-house, neither did I notice any blood on his clothes on Saturday morning. The witness added that deceased and Sadler slept at the house on Wednesday night, and they came again on the following night, the deceased first, and Sadler after her. Witness asked him if he was looking for the young woman he was stopping with last night. He replied, "Yes; I want Frances." Witness said, "There she is, asleep." Sadler tried to rouse her, but she was too drowsy. Sadler told witness he had been robbed in Thrawl-street of 5s 6d. His face was bleeding, and he washed the blood off in his yard. His clothes were smothered with dust, as if he had been in a fight. Sadler said he had given the woman a shilling to pay for the bed, but the deputy said she had not paid him; and Sadler shortly afterwards went out. On leaving Ratcliffe Highway Lewis left the house. Just before she went out she was sitting on the floor nursing a kitten. As witness wanted to clean that kitchen up she went away to another one. She had been drinking, but was getting more sober then. When she first came into the house she ten grouse, she had no bad habits. Witness saw her throw one of them—a crape hat—into the fire, and it was just beginning to burn when a woman took it off, and trampled on it. It was then hung up on one of the hat rails. Witness did not see this hat in her possession again. The one she wore was a different one. She never returned to the house after leaving it on this occasion. Witness continued: It was just after three o'clock on Friday morning, when I was going to call a man up, when Sadler came back to the house. The door was open, and he came into the passage. He asked me to let him come into the kitchen. I said it was more than I dare do; he had better ask the deputy, Mrs Fleming. Blood was running down his face, and he said he felt faint. I said, "What have you been at?" and he replied, "I have been knocked down and robbed in the highway." On leaving Ratcliffe Highway I said, "Perhaps you told me you had been robbed of 5s 6d in Thrawl-street, and that was all you had." He replied, "They thought I had got some money about me, but I did not have none." The deputy asked him what he wanted, and he asked if he could have a bed. He said he felt so faint, but she declined. The man continued to lean against the wall, and again asked me to let him go into the kitchen, but I said I could not. I advised him to go to the London Hospital, as blood was running down his forehead and face. He then said that a lot of it had been on the ground again. I walked into the kitchen to finish my work, and left him with his head leaning against the partition. In a minute or two Mrs Fleming called me to turn him out. As I approached him to do so he walked out himself. It was then about half-past three, and I never saw him again till Sunday morning, the 15th, between eleven and twelve, at Leman street Police Station. He was then amongst a number of other seamen, and I identified him. I next saw him at the Thames Police Court. I have no doubt that he is the man whom I saw at the lodging-house under the circumstances described.—By the Jury: When he returned to the lodging-house at 3 a.m. he said nothing about Frances. The slightly-burnt hat which was thrown on the fire is now in the Mortuary. I saw it there this morning.—When he came back at three his clothes were not only dirty but disarranged.

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TRACING THE ACCUSED'S MOVEMENTS.

Sadler's movements have been traced back to March, 1887, and show that he could have had nothing to do with at least half the East End murders. On the 24th March, 1887, he joined the Georgian at Newport, and remained with her until the 5th May following, when he left her in London. From this latter date until August he was in England, and presumably in the metropolis. It was during this period that the murders commenced, an unknown woman being found during March on the right hand side. I did not notice stains of blood on the man's clothes before he left the lodging-house, neither did I notice any blood on his clothes on Saturday morning. The witness added that deceased and Sadler slept at the house on Wednesday night, and they came again on the following night, the deceased first, and Sadler after her. Witness asked him if he was looking for the young woman he was stopping with last night. He replied, "Yes; I want Frances." Witness said, "There she is, asleep." Sadler tried to rouse her, but she was too drowsy. Sadler told witness he had been robbed in Thrawl-street of 5s 6d. His face was bleeding, and he washed the blood off in his yard. His clothes were smothered with dust, as if he had been in a fight. Sadler said he had given the woman a shilling to pay for the bed, but the deputy said she had not paid him; and Sadler shortly afterwards went out. On leaving Ratcliffe Highway I said, "Perhaps you told me you had been robbed of 5s 6d in Thrawl-street, and that was all you had." He replied, "They thought I had got some money about me, but I did not have none." The deputy asked him what he wanted, and he asked if he could have a bed. He said he felt so faint, but she declined. The man continued to lean against the wall, and again asked me to let him go into the kitchen, but I said I could not. I advised him to go to the London Hospital, as blood was running down his forehead and face. He then said that a lot of it had been on the ground again. I walked into the kitchen to finish my work, and left him with his head leaning against the partition. In a minute or two Mrs Fleming called me to turn him out. As I approached him to do so he walked out himself. It was then about half-past three, and I never saw him again till Sunday morning, the 15th, between eleven and twelve, at Leman street Police Station. He was then amongst a number of other seamen, and I identified him. I next saw him at the Thames Police Court. I have no doubt that he is the man whom I saw at the lodging-house under the circumstances described.—By the Jury: When he returned to the lodging-house at 3 a.m. he said nothing about Frances. The slightly-burnt hat which was thrown on the fire is now in the Mortuary. I saw it there this morning.—When he came back at three his clothes were not only dirty but disarranged.

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PROFIT ON AN OLD PICTURE.

An extraordinary purchase was made at Christie's a few months ago. An "old master," begrimed with dirt, was knocked down for £7. It was promptly resold for £80, and again for £700, and it has now been acquired for £2,000 by a Continental gallery, and turns out to be a magnificent Terburg. This artist, it may be remembered, spent some time in England, and left behind him some of his finest productions.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT NORTH SHIELDS.

A WOMAN FOUND DROWNED.

A mysterious drowning case has occurred at North Shields. The body of a woman was yesterday found in a pond in a farmyard at North Shields, lying face downwards. The body had been but a short time in the water, and was identified as that of Margaret Marshall, a widow. Nothing is known as to how she came in the water.

A MINISTER FINED FOR BRAWLING IN CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. Pope was fined £2 at Newton Abbott yesterday for brawling in church. It was shown that he took some of the Communion bread to his pew, wrested the chalice from the officiating priest, and told him he was unfit to administer the Sacrament. He then stood gesticulating with his Bible throughout the rest of the service.

PARLIAMENT AND THE GAMBLING EVIL.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr Pickersgill gave notice that on that day four weeks he should move: That this House regards with grave apprehension the increasing prevalence of betting and gambling, and calls upon the executive to put into operation the existing law on this subject impartially against all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, and further declares that it is desirable to consolidate the law on the subject." (Hear, hear.)

FATAL FIRE NEAR WEST HARTLEPOOL.

A MAN ROASTED ALIVE.

A fire, attended by fatal results, broke out early this morning at Hunter House Farm, Seaton Carew, occupied by Mr Robert Elstob. The alarm reached West Hartlepool between two and three o'clock, when the fire brigade under Capt. Scott immediately proceeded to the scene of the conflagration. On arriving at the farm it was found that the flames had completely hold of a granary and cart house. The brigade promptly got to work, but it was some time before the fire was completely subdued. When this was accomplished Captain Scott entered the premises, and found amongst the *debris* the dead body of a man, which was identified as that of John Feeney, labourer, who was employed on the farm, and who had apparently been sleeping in the granary. The body was literally charred to a cinder, and presented a shocking spectacle. Deceased was aged 46. The damage to the property is estimated at about £50, and it is supposed that the fire was caused by deceased smoking.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr W. H. Smith, in reply to Mr Atkinson, said it was not intended to ask the United States Government to refund the unexpended surplus of the sum paid by this country under the Alabama indemnity award.

INDIAN QUESTIONS.

Sir Wm. Plowden moved the amendment of one of the standing orders, so that a more general discussion of Indian questions might be possible when the Indian Budget was brought forward.—After some discussion, Mr W. H. Smith said the Government had no desire to oppose the wishes of the hon. members for a more general discussion of Indian questions, and the motion was then agreed to.—Mr Buchanan moved the abolition of the present system of separate Presidential commands in Madras and Bombay, the command of all the Indian armies being given to the Commander-in-Chief in India.—Sir W. Plowden seconded the motion.—Sir J. Gorst (Under Secretary for India) replied to the grand difference of military opinion on this subject, and said that many changes in the system had already been effected. The changes now suggested could not be carried out without legislation, a difficult matter in that House to deal with. In the question, he thought it would be better to wait for the result of recent changes.—Mr Campbell-Bannerman, Sir R. Temple, and others continued the debate, in which Mr Stanhope (Secretary for War) also took part, his remarks being to a similar effect as the Under-Secretary for India. In the end the motion was withdrawn.

PROTECTION IN DISGUISE.

Mr Howard Vincent called attention to the growing desire of the great colonies to enter into closer relations with the mother country, and moved that an early opportunity should be taken of inviting the self-governing colonies to confer with the Imperial Government upon the best means of developing the trade of the Empire.—Mr Staveley Hill seconded the motion.—Sir Lyon Playfair pointed to the fact that the mover of the resolution was a Fair Trader, and that the real meaning of that was that all goods coming to England should be taxed.—After some protectionist remarks from Mr James Lowther, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, after speaking of the desirableness of drawing the colonies nearer to the mother country, said the country would sanction no policy which would have the effect of sunking bread dearer.—After further discussion, Mr Vincent withdrew the resolution, but this being refused, Mr Smith moved the previous question, which was agreed to.—The House adjourned at 12.8.

THE SCOTCH BLAST-FURNACE-MEN'S STRIKE.

A FIRM ATTITUDE.

The blast-furnacemen out on strike in Scotland continue to show a splendidly firm front to all the efforts of the masters to induce or coerce them to leave their union and go back to work on the terms they offer. Not a single member of the Blast-furnacemen's Association has been got away by the masters, while the men's pickets have captured several of the "blacklegs." No effort is made to capture any but practical blast-furnacemen, as the men believe that the employment of inexperienced men by the masters will help their cause by showing how helpless they are to the satisfactory working of the furnaces. At Messrs Dixon's works on Monday afternoon something evidently went wrong, as No. 4 furnace was off blast, and since Sunday several similar interruptions have taken place. It is reported that casting has taken place, and something like 200 tons of metal produced, and the greatest speculation is abroad amongst the men as to its quality, many of them saying it can be of no practical use to anyone, as the furnaces are quite out of order, and something serious must occur in the course of the next few days if the masters do not send on keepers present to attend to the tuyeres and blowing apparatus. The men are confident of success. At the Clyde Ironworks on Saturday numbers of those who have been warned from the Company's houses waited at the office and offered to pay their rents. The money, however, was refused in all cases. At Calder the masters have somewhat modified their previously unbending attitude on the Sunday question, having intimated that they are ready to treat with their own employees, but not with union officials, and the matter is under discussion. The men to be employed at Gartsherrie, where two furnaces have been put in blast this morning, have no connection with the Blast-furnacemen's Union, and the employers, though quite willing to consider the men's claims with respect to the wages question, point out that it is impossible to carry on the works if they allow the furnaces to remain idle over Sunday. In regard to wages, too, they say that there must be a reduction of 20 per cent. on the pay earned when the strike began, as the price of pig iron has now declined from 60s and 65s to 46s and 47s per ton. Some of Dixon's men have left their houses without waiting for notice, having secured suitable dwellings elsewhere. Yesterday evening Sir Stair Foulis, writer, Glasgow, served notices for the summary ejectment of ten furnacemen from the houses of Wm. Baird and Co. at Gartsherrie. The men are cited to appear at the Sheriff Court on Tuesday, Mr J. M'Bride, writer, Airdrie, has also to-day received instructions to take out warrants for the ejectment of Messrs Addie's men at Langloan. No instructions have yet been given as to the Calder men, but it is expected that they will be served with the legal process in a day or two. Mr Angus Holden, M.P., has left to attend the men in the Sheriff Court.—Mr D. Wilson, a member of the executive of the Blast-furnacemen's Association, from Ormesby, went to Glasgow yesterday to lead the battle for the men, in the place of Mr Snow, who is still, unfortunately, confined to his house by a severe rheumatic and bronchial attack. Referring to the dispute, the *Glasgow Herald* says:—As regards the reduction in the wage, the furnacemen seem to be sufficiently alive to the commercial and industrial situation as to recognise that some reduction is imperative if working is to be resumed, but it is felt that the masters are following a wrong course in bluntly intimating that only at such and such wages will they re-engage men, and that they will not listen to anything about Sunday work or anything else. This exhibits a dictatorial spirit which does not make for industrial peace. No doubt the masters have a perfect right to define the terms on which they will resume a manufacture so long interrupted, but the men are equally interested in the preservation of the industry. Their co-operation, not their antagonism, should be invited. It is not pleasant to think that foreigners should be imported to work the furnaces while there are hundreds of our own people more competent to work them than any other persons—ready to work them, too, it is believed, on a reasonable basis.

TOOTHACHE.—Bunter's Nervine cures Toothache instantly by painless constriction of the nerve, prevents decay, and saves extraction. Neuralgic headaches and all nerve pains removed. Sleepless nights prevented by using Bunter's Nervine. Sold by all Chem sts, 1s 1½d.—Advt.

WATCH, CLOCK, AND JEWELLERY REPAIRS.—All classes executed by proficient workmen. Satisfaction guaranteed at reasonable charges; no apprentices kept. E. Cowley, High-street, Stockton.—Advt.

KAY'S COMPOUND, a demulcent anodyne expectorant for Coughs, 9½d, 13½d. All Chemists.—Advt.

LINUM CATHARTICUM PILLS, agreeably aperient, 9½d, 13½d, 2s 9d. Of all Chemists.—Advt.

WHEN SPRINGTIME your linen will be glossier and more lustrous, and you will find your iron will no stick, if you put a small piece of "Sunlight Soap" in the starch.—Advt.

KAY'S The Pills, specific in Neuralgia, Faceache, 9½d and 13½d; postage 1d. A 1 Chemists.—Advt

North Country News.

THE CORBETT CONCERTS AT MIDDLESBROUGH.—The last of the series of ballad concerts organised by Mr Felix Corbett takes place at the new Town Hall to-night, when the artistes and the programme are such as to make it a worthy termination to the high-class concerts which Mr Corbett has provided for the district. The names of Madame Nordica, Mr Edward Lloyd, Mr Santley, and Madame Hope-Glenn need no recommendation to a Middlesbrough audience. They stand in the very front rank of vocalists, and form a quartet of such strength as has never been heard in Middlesbrough before. Mr Corbett is the piano soloist, a department in which he has already so preeminently distinguished himself.

Mr Felix Corbett's Concert To-night. Doors open 7, Commence 7.45.—Advt.

MAX O'RELL, Borough Hall, Stockton, Friday, Feb. 20, Lecture, "John Bull and Jacques Bonhomme," 8 p.m.—Advt.

MIDDLESBROUGH HARRIERS. — Run from Headquarters (Swatters' Carr Hotel) To-morrow Night at 7.30. Athletes invited.—Advt

Reduced rates to America by the magnificent steamers of the Warren Line; Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, £3 10s. Apply Thompson Dickinson, 71, Mandale-rd., South Stockton.—Advt.

Crossley Brothers' New Horizontal Otto Engine (without slides) can be seen working any day at Messrs Crossley Brothers' Works, behind Cleveland-terrace, Middlesbrough.—Advt.

THE LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR WHITBY.—Mr Frank Fynan has presented large-sized photographs of himself to the Liberal clubs of Whitby, Scarborough, and Pickering. He proposes at the end of this month and beginning of next to hold a series of meetings throughout the division. Before July he hopes to have been in every nook and corner of the district which he desires to represent in the House of Commons.

THE DURHAM COLLIERY SUBSIDENCE CASE.—At the Assize Courts, Durham, yesterday, Mr Edward Ridley, official referee of the High Court of Justice, continued the enquiry into the case of Pallister *v.* Bolckow, Vaughan, and Co. It was a claim for compensation for damage done by subsidence, owing, it was alleged, to the workings of defendants' colliery at Woodifield. Pallister is a butcher, living at Coxhoe, and defendants are the South Durham firm of colliery owners and ironmasters. Evidence was given by the builders and others as to the damage done, William Rutter, Crossgate Moor, saying the cost of repairs was £183, and other witnesses brought the damages claimed up to £210; whilst R. W. Thompson, Bishop Auckland, said his estimate for reinstatement was £179.—The Court again adjourned.

A WHITBY STEAMER IN COLLISION.—Judgment was given at Westminster yesterday in the case of the Corsican, which recently ran down the barge Elizabeth in the River Thames, thereby causing the loss of a man's life. The Court found that although a good and proper look-out was kept on board the Corsican, that vessel did not comply with rules 14 and 16 of 1880 for the navigation of the River Thames: that the Corsican was not navigated with proper and seamanlike care; that the master of the Corsican was in default; but that, under all the circumstances of the case, his certificate would not be dealt with, seeing that the principal cause of the collision and loss of life in this case was that the barge showed no light. The Court found that the light should be shown above Barking Creek as well as below, and invited the attention of the Board of Trade to this anomaly in the rules.

MARRIAGE OF MR W. B. BEAUMONT, M.P.—Yesterday afternoon at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, in the presence of only a few of the bride's relations and private friends of both families, the marriage took place of Mr Wentworth Blackett Beaumont, M.P. for the Tyneside division of Northumberland, of Allenhead, Allendale, Northumberland, Bretton Hall, Wakefield, and 144, Piccadilly-terrace, London, W., and Lady Edith Pomeroy Colley, widow of Major-General Sir George Pomeroy Colley, K.C.S.I., C.B., and C.M.G., who was commander in Natal, and who fell in action on Majuba Hill in 1881, of 36 Eaton-terrace, S.W., and eldest daughter of Major-General Henry Meade Bunbury, C.B. There was no best man and no bridesmaids. The bride was costumed in a handsome dress of dark brown velvet, with train effectively ornamented with costly fur, with which also the Zoua jacket and Medici collar were ornamented. She wore a waistcoat of white corded silk, trimmed with gold passementerie, and bonnet of brown velvet, trimmed with fur, to match her dress. Her ornaments were diamonds.

SHILDON LOCAL BOARD.—At yesterday's meeting (Mr Scott presiding) the Surveyor reported having served notices on various occupiers of slaughter-houses to have necessary improvements carried out. Mr Mitchell said the Medical officer certified to 20 deaths and 38 births. The scarlatina patients had recovered, and so far as he knew, scarlatina was now absent from the district.—The Sewage Farm Committee recommended that the manager make the necessary alterations, with a view to the improvement of the drainage there.—The recommendation was adopted.—Mr Boddy drew the attention of the Board to the state of the ashpits in Church-street and thereabouts.—The Surveyor said he knew cases where as many as thirteen houses to one ashpit.—Mr Boddy: Well, it's a disgrace.—In his written report the Surveyor said he had found several untrapped drains in the Board's district, in each case he had given instructions for the carrying out of the necessary alterations, and also hoped that the close of the present week would find the ashpits in a more satisfactory condition.—Arrangements were made for the election of four members, those retiring being Messrs Veitch, Hill, Jackson, and Robson. The election is fixed for the 8th of April.—A rate of 1s 6d in the £ was agreed upon.

EXTRAORDINARY CONDUCT ON A BUTCHER.—At the Ripon City Court this morning Peter Atkinson, of Ripon, butcher, was summoned for having, on February 7th, assaulted his wife, Mrs Elizabeth Atkinson, on the 12th February. Complainant applied for sureties of the peace. Mr Hutchinson appeared for the complainant, and stated that the pair had been married for seven years, and had not had a pleasant time of it, as the husband was a very extraordinary man. He had not done anything to support his wife and children for the last twelve months. Defendant had injured his leg and had been taken to the Cottage Hospital, and when he came out he threatened to take her life for not having sent him any provisions. She went to his house on the Thursday afternoon after he had come out of the hospital, and on seeing his mother-in-law he took off his bandages, threw away his crutches, and began to create a disturbance and threatened to take the life of his wife. He repeated the same thing the following day. The defendant, Mr Hutchinson said, was not as much to be blamed as pitied, as he was hardly responsible for his actions. Defendant was bound over to keep the peace for six months, himself in £20 and one surety in £20 and two sureties of £10. In default six months' imprisonment.

This Day's Sporting.

NEWMARKET TRAINING NOTES.

Dewan fog. On the Bury Side: Dennis's Lord George, Lord Henry, Lassigman, Star, Hue, Zanet, Woolthorpe, Ravensthorpe, Wyburg, Sebastian, Chloris, Dorothy Vernon, and Cattering; Jarvis's Rumble Hall, Bagshell, and Bel-oyer; J. Dawson's Greenwich, Wiseman, Santa Claus, Rum Court, Plato, and Roberts; Jewitt's Rathdeal, Barbatello, Killoshen, Keepsake, Vaness

CHIPS.

It is calculated that there are 195,000 women employed as dressmakers in Paris.

Living is nearly 40 per cent. cheaper in London than in New York.

Velveteen is now so beautiful that it is frequently substituted for real velvet, especially in light colours.

Baron Overstone, who died in 1883, left by far the largest cash sum in recent years of any peer—viz., £2,100,000.

The Queen of Italy's pearls are the finest in Europe. It is well known that the King, knowing her love for them, gives her a fresh string every birthday.

Amongst modern nations the greatest eaters are the English, Germans, French, and Americans, the last being, perhaps, on the average, the greatest eaters in the world.

A notable feature of this year's Ash Wednesday was the large number of persons who attended the early celebrations between eight o'clock and ten.

For some months past men have been employed in this country upon a monster flying machine, which the inventor is bold enough to hope will make the journey from England to America.

The greatest quantity of wheat ever imported into the United Kingdom was 14,824,600 quarters in 1882, and the maximum of flour was equal to 5,558,000 quarters received in 1887.

A Spaniard in Barcelona has invented gloves for swimming. They facilitate swimming, as a web-membrane is between each finger. The swimming school in Barcelona has bought several pairs of gloves for trial, as they are considered a good acquisition.

In a burying ground for coloured people near Birmingham, Alabama, is a weather-stained tombstone, upon which can be deciphered this inscription :—" Henryetta, Emmeretta, Demiretta, Creamartarter, Carolina, Balstic, Daughter of Bob and Sooky Cottin."

Herr Windthorst, the German Ultramontane leader, figures as an idol in a Chinese temple near Amoy. A young German, travelling in the neighbourhood recently, entered a temple dedicated to the "Seven Geniuses," and, to his surprise, he found a dilapidated bust of his countryman among the divinities. Evidently the bust had been lost out of some Teutonic vessel.

There are many curious signs and business announcements to be found in London. Amongst the number :—" Sick dogs medically attented to by the week or month. Birds to board. Ladies' and gentlemen's feet and hands professionally treated by the job or season. Round-shouldered persons made straight. Babies or children hired or exchanged. False noses as good as new, and warranted to fit. Black eyes painted very neatly."

An energetic man at Saginaw has calculated that the average person trims off a thirty-second of an inch of nail from each finger every week, or three inches a year. The average of human life the world over is forty years. Ten feet of finger-nail for each finger—a round 200 feet from the twenty fingers and toes. There are 1,300,000,000 people in this world, and altogether they waste on an average 260,000,000 feet, or 56,818·15 miles of finger-nail in a generation—sufficiently to reach round the earth, and still leave 10,000 miles to do our scratching with.

The marriage of Miss Blanche Vanderbilt Marchlin, cousin of the American millionaire, to Mr Frank Morse Singer, son of the manufacturer of that name, is to be a grand ceremony. It will take place at Paignton. The Parisian toilettes of the bride and her few bridesmaids are stated to be masterpieces. A special bridal coach has been constructed for the occasion. It is lined with white satin brocade adorned with orange blossoms, and is to be drawn by four white horses with white velvet and silver trappings. The trousseau cost £2,000, and everything else is on the same lavish scale.

There are still many all-round sporting men among our old nobility—Peers who could ride a horse or engage with credit in a round of the gloves. The Marquis of Ailesbury is an enthusiast for all manner of sport; and so are the Earl of Lonsdale and the Earl of Shrewsbury. Then of the Marquis of Queensberry it is only necessary to say that he has given his name to the best known set of boxing rules we have. Lord Esme Gordon, a younger brother of the Marquis of Huntly, has an accurate notion of an encounter between two such men as Slavin and McAuliffe.

Mr Justice Jeune, the latest new Judge of the High Court, has for years been recognised as one of our greatest authorities on ecclesiastical law. He knows, perhaps, more about how a mitre should be carried and a surplice worn, according to the strict letter of the law, than any other man. It is hard to imagine anybody taking a living interest in musty ecclesiastical laws, but Justice Jeune is said to have found actual pleasure in their study. The son of a Bishop, Justice Jeune comes of a Jersey ancestry; and, indeed, his type of face is almost foreign. Most judges can crack a joke, especially, be it remarked, Lord Coleridge, and Justice Jeune is himself witty and has an appreciation of wit.

According to a Lyons paper what the doctors imagine to be yellow fever has been brought to a sanitarium district in that city by two young parrots. These birds were given recently by a young married couple from Marseilles to their aunt, who lives outside Lyons. Shortly afterwards the recipient of the feathered strangers, which had come from one of the Australasian islands, fell ill, and so did her servant and other members of her household. Four persons in all died, in spite of the most efficient medical attendance and care. The birds in the meantime also sickened and perished in a few days. The doctors were convinced that the parrots had conveyed the germs of yellow fever either from a ship or from their place of origin. The house in which these deplorable events occurred has been disinfected.

In the time of the second Empire there had been at Compiègne a great and elegant hunting party, with a tremendous massacre of hares and pheasants and other game. Standing in chosen spots the Emperor and his followers had the game driven up before them, and had nothing to do but shoot it down. These high-born hunters had but to stoop to pick up the game that they shot; but they did not even do as much as that. Their valets, dressed in picturesque costumes, went about picking up their game for them. As the hunters returned after the day's sport it was noticed that Prosper Mérimée, who was one of the party, was the only one whose servant was not laden with game. He was left completely in the lurch, as it were, without having taken as much as a sparrow. "Well, well," his literary fellows exclaimed, "how did they manage to get away from you." "When game is so plentiful as that," said Mérimée, gravely, "the merit of a marksman lies in hitting nothing. So I fired between the birds."

The destruction by fire of the colours of the 1st Battalion South Lancashire Regiment at the officers' mess, Fort Regent, Jersey, recalls the trinity of fates which have befallen the colours of British regiments. At the fire of the Tower of London in 1841 the retired colours of several line and militia regiments were destroyed; but very rarely has a case occurred of the accidental loss by fire of regimental colours still in use. The first and only colours of the old 2nd Battalion 8th King's, which had accompanied the regiment on active service in the Walcheren Expedition and American War were, on the reduction of the battalion at Portsmouth in 1815, solemnly burned in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel James Ogilvie and the other officers. When the present 2nd Battalion Highland Light Infantry, then the 74th Highlanders, were presented with new colours at Fermoy on the 6th of April, 1818, the old tattered ones, which had waved over the regiment in many a hard-fought field in India and the Peninsula, were burned, and the ashes deposited in the lid of a gold sarcophagus snuff-box, inlaid with part of the wood of the colour poles, on which a suitable inscription was engraved. The burying of colours is, however, quite another matter, and if reverently carried out is an honourable and graceful termination of a life of active service. An instance in point occurred on the 31st of May, 1763, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, when the 25th Edinburgh Regiment, commanded by Lord George Lennox, now the King's Own Scottish Borderers, buried with military honours their old colours, which were worn out from length of service. They had been in use for twenty years, and had been in the battles of Fontenoy, Culloden, Roncoux Val, Minden, Warburg, Campen, Bellinghausen, and Wilhelmsthal. The commander was very angry at the burning of the colours of the 8th, as they were in use at the time, and this constituted an affront to the army.

QUIPS AND CRANKS.

Some girls are pressed for time and others for the fun of it.

A book that is likely to "make some stir"—The cook-book.

The only thing that really interests the average hired man is something that he is not paid for attending to.

Anxious to Please.—Groom: "Shall I rub his legs off, sir?" Equestrian: "No, you had better leave them on."

"Mamma," said little Willie, inspecting a porous plaster, "are those holes where the pain comes through?"

A man advertises for a competent person to undertake the sale of a new medicine, and adds that "it will be highly lucrative to the undertaker."

A school-teacher lately put the question, "Which is the highest form of animal life?" "The giraffe," responded a bright member of the class.

The editor wrote: "The showers last week, though copious, were not sufficient to meet the wants of the milkmen!" and the compositor set it up "milkmen."

"I never jump at conclusions," said the pastor. "No," said the elderly member of his congregation, who takes liberties; "I have noticed that from your sermons. You reach a conclusion very slowly."

"What pretty children, and how much they look alike!" said Mr Toots, during a visit to a friend's house. "They are twins," his friend explained. "What! both of them?" retorted Toots, greatly interested.

"Taking them one with another," said a Ritualistic clergyman, "I believe my congregation to be the most exemplary observers of the religious ordinances, for the poor keep all the fasts, and the rich all the feasts."

Johnny More proposed to a girl. She said she would send her answer next day. He was surprised to receive a green leaf. He took it to a botanist, and since then he has been mournful. It was a leaf from a sick-o'-More tree.

Were our pen a quill from the pinion of the loftiest seraphim at banks in gleaming glory, and dipped in the refulgent radiance of the rainbow's fountain, we could not describe how supremely happy one of our young men looks when in the ethereal presence of his adored one.

"Oh! what a horrid smell!" exclaimed a chorus-singer to her neighbour, as she sniffed at the powerful mixture of bergamot and patchouli which exhaled from the other young lady's pocket-handkerchief. "Wherever did you get it?" "It was scent to me," was the reply.

Suitor (to her father): "Sir, I love the very ground your daughter treads on." Father (grimly): "Well, young man, you ain't the first party that's had an attachment for it; howsumever, if you love it well enough to come and help to pay up the mortgage on it, like Jacob did, you can marry Sarah."

A RISING AUTHOR.

"Skimble complains that he doesn't sleep well in the mornings now." "Yes, I know. It's his book." "His book? What do you mean?" "He's just published a book, you know, and now he's practising waking in the morning and finding himself famous."

A CORRECTION.

An excited military-looking gentleman entered the editorial sanctum one afternoon, exclaiming, "That notice of my death is false, sir. I'll horsewhip you within an inch of your life, sir, if you don't apologise and express your regret in your next issue." The editor inserted the following next day: "We extremely regret to announce that the paragraph which stated that Major Blazer was dead is without foundation."

SOME CATCH ABOUT IT.

A middle-aged woman called at an insurance office of a provincial town a day or two ago to announce that she wanted to insure her house. "For how much?" asked the agent. "Oh, about £200." "Very well. I'll come up and investigate it." "I don't know much about insurance," she said. "It's very plain, ma'am." "If I'm insured for £200, and the house is burnt down, I get the money, do I?" "Certainly." "And they don't ask who set it afire?" "Oh, but they do. We shall want to know all about it." "Then you needn't come up," she said, as she rose to go. "I heard there was some catch about it somewhere, and now I know see it is."

WHY HE COULDN'T SERVE ON THE JURY.

Some entertaining stories are told in the *Law Gazette* of the tricks by which men summoned to attend as common jurymen attempt to avoid the duty cast upon them. The writer of an article entitled "Before the Associate" says that one morning a little girl whose eyes just appeared above the desk timidly exclaimed, "Please, sir, father can't come; he can't put on his boots" The associate asked the nervous little creature what was the matter with her parent. She hesitated; evidently she had not been instructed further than the statement she had made, and, looking straight into the associate's twinkling eyes, she said, "Well, sir, father don't wear boots; he's got wooden legs. I wasn't told to say anything else, sir—that's all."

BY ORDER OF THE PRINCESS.

A careless, absent-minded man who travels is apt to blunder into adventures, some of which may be unpleasant, while others are amusing. Several years ago a young American of this class, an art student in Germany, while wandering on the banks of the Moselle, blundered into the most amusing of mistakes. He wandered into the grounds about the Castle of Winneberg, the family seat of Prince Metternich. Seeing tables and benches under the trees, he thought he was in a *café*, and, taking a seat, rapped loudly on the table with his stick. A fair-haired young girl, who was walking at the end of an avenue, approached, and he ordered her to bring refreshments. She looked at him with surprise, and disappeared. In a few minutes a servant dressed in livery approached with a tray. The student, thinking it a stylish and therefore expensive place, said that he had only ordered luncheon. "I have obeyed the order of the Princess," answered the servant, turning to the abashed student, who, by enquiring, learned that he was the unbidden guest of the Princess Metternich. Tableau!

OUT FOR A DAY'S PLEASURING.

A big, freckled-faced woman was striding down a broad avenue in the suburbs, leading two children by the hand, and followed by a third. "Is this the way to the park?" she demanded of a man leaning against a tree. "What park, madam?" he enquired. "Any park. The nearest park." "If you go about two blocks further, turn to the right, and then go straight on for about a mile and a half you will reach the only one in this vicinity." "Plenty of shade trees, and animals in cages, and ducks swimming about in little lakelets?" "Yes." "And benches with rustic tables in front of them, where poor people are graciously permitted to eat the frugal victuals doled out to them under a falsely-constructed fabric of society, provided they take the victuals along with them?" "Plenty of 'em, ma'am." "No charge for going into the park?" "No." "Stay as long as we please?" "Certainly." "Then I'll find it if I have to walk all day. I've come out from the crowded city to get a breath of God's pure air and bathe my soul in the sweet influence of Nature. Come on, you little brat back there, or I'll skin ye alive!" And she went on down the avenue at a five-mile gait, dragging the two children, and followed at some distance in the rear by the loudly-howling third.

THE FURNITURE-VAN.

It was the 1st of October, the day on which Herr Döske and family were to remove into other quarters. "Where did you order the furniture-van, hubby?" enquired Frau Döske. "Ach, the furniture-van! I quite forgot it, I declare!" was the meek rejoinder. "But, stay! I have an idea; just you leave it to me." He snatched up his hat, and went to see a well-known money-lender. "I want 3,000 marks," said Döske. "I never lend money without ample security." "I can let you have my furniture, and am prepared to pay you interest at the rate of one-third per cent. per diem." "That makes 122 per cent. per annum," silently calculated the usurer, and consented. "But as the sheriff's officer may come any minute and seize the furniture you will have to fetch it away at once." "I see," grinned the usurer; "it shall be done." He counted out the money and sent for the furniture. The next day Herr Döske called again, paid back the 3,000 marks and one-third per cent. interest—10 marks—and directed the furniture to be sent to his new residence. The usurer had to grin and bear it, whilst Herr Döske congratulated himself on effecting a cheap and expeditious removal of his household goods.

THE SILKSWORTH STRUGGLE.

AWAITING THE ARMY OF EVICTORS.

[By Our Special Commissioner.]

Still another respite for the locked-out miners at Silksworth! The evictions had first to take place on Monday. In anticipation of this the miners were on the alert, and from early morn until midday the stretch of road leading from the farmhouse in which the candymen have to be located, and which is now known as "Candy Hall"—a name it will be probably remembered by for many years to come—was eagerly watched for the first approach of the enemy, but none came. It then leaked out from an independent source that the evictions were fixed for yesterday morning sure. But the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft agley." Last night a telegram reached Silksworth from Durham to the effect that an arrangement had been come to by the two Associations that

NO EVICTIONS HAD TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL THURSDAY MORNING,

when, if no other stumbling-block appeared, the masters, Shylock-like would proceed to take their pound of flesh, and turn the wives and bairns of the miners out on to the roadside. Accordingly the telephone and the telegraph were brought into requisition, and the reinforcements of police which were expected from the different parts of the county were stopped until Thursday morning. Had the message not come officially it is every way likely that it would not have been credited, as the impression prevails amongst the strike hands, that the same tactics will be pursued at Silksworth as have been pursued elsewhere, and that the evicting forces will appear quietly and suddenly, when least expected, so as to spoil as much as possible any unpleasant welcome that might be awaiting them. There are altogether at Silksworth about 1,200 houses. Both of the first batch of eviction warrants have lapsed. In the first batch of 183, as is generally the case, the most of the officials of the Silksworth miners lodge, and those of the men who take an active part in union affairs. A fresh application for these warrants will be made before the Sunderland County Bench on Saturday next, when the managers will find that

MATTERS WILL NOT PROGRESS AS SMOOTHLY

as on the last occasion. Acting on the advice of Mr Samuel Storey, M.P., the men will be represented by a solicitor, and each man of the 183 will appear and answer to his name. By doing so, the result must be considerable delay in disposing of the applications. Those to be evicted to-morrow are what are called the third and fourth batch of warrants—203 and 96 being the exact number. Those warrants will affect those people living in Hill-street, Maria-street, Quarry-street, Robert-street, Edward-street, Stewart-street, William-street, Wynyard-street, and Londonderry-street. The cause of the postponement of the evictions from Tuesday until to-morrow is alleged to be the fact that during last night and this morning a ballot will be taken of the miners employed at Seaham Colliery, the Nicholson Pit, the Adventure, and Leitch, the four pits owned by the Marquis, as to whether the men at those collieries should not also give in their notices and come out on strike as a protest against the action of the management at Silksworth. If the evictions had taken place yesterday it was thought it might influence the voting. A meeting of the Miners' Executive will be held at Durham this afternoon to receive and consider the result of the ballot, and the decision will be announced to-night. Meanwhile the

MINERS ARE IN THE BEST OF HEART,

and in no way despondent or afraid of the threatened eviction. Proof of this might have been seen on Monday night. The night was beautiful and fine, although the air was a trifle frosty. A bright moon lit up the streets of the village in a way that was almost equal to gas. Two fiddlers were requisitioned, and in the street a homely carnival was improvised. The fiddlers were in good cheer, if their instruments were not as rich in tone as if they had been cherished Cremonas. The bows were vigorously applied, dance music of a lively nature resounded through the village, and out from their houses came the young men and women—ay, and old men and women too—and danced as happy as kings and queens until the early hours of the morning.

ONE PORTLY DAME

distinguished herself by her cheery chatter. Her husband and she, during a bygone struggle, were evicted at Ryhope, and the contemplation of having to go through the same state of suffering and inconvenience in no wise disheartened her. "We've been put out afore, will agyen, I, and agyen after that!" she exclaimed once, as she gracefully tucked in her skirts, and kept pace to the music as blithely, lightly, and as merrily as if she had been yet a lassie in her teens, and ere a laddie "cam ower the hills and wood and won her for his ain." Up to yesterday afternoon there were no signs of the "candymen," who are supposed to be coming from Leeds and from Hartlepool. The cage was ready, but the birds had not landed. "The beef and beer has arrived, but not the candymen," was the pithy communication made to Pressmen by

A CHEERY AND GOOD-NATURED POLICE OFFICIAL

who has exerted himself considerably to bring about a peaceful solution of the dispute. "When they will come, or whether they will come, the Lord and the managers only know," he said; "but he bolted off to buttonhole one of the miners' officials. If the evictions do take place to-morrow the men have made up their minds to do nothing which shall alienate from them public sympathy. More than one speaker at the Sunday night meeting at Ryhope expressed such an opinion in clear and forcible language. Mr Jos. Laverick, of Monkwearmouth, who has had much experience of strikes in the past, counselled the men strongly to keep the peace if they meant to win the struggle, and the advice was loudly applauded.

A HINT FOR THE NOBLE OWNER.

The same speaker reminded the men of the Penshaw strike in 1877, remarking that on that occasion the old Marquis of Londonderry, when he saw the furniture of his workmen cast into the streets, ordered it to be put back again into the houses. It might be as well if the present Marquis was to follow the example of his ancestor, and come to Silksworth to witness the first evictions. If he was to do so I am certain he would do as the old Marquis did before the fiftieth ejecting order was carried into effect. The men may to-morrow offer what has been termed a "passive resistance." They may when the first alarm is given of the approach of the evicting forces lock the doors, and compel the redoubtable "candymen" to use something like a battering ram at the doors to break them in and effect an entrance. Such a ram could not very well be called "Balfour's maiden," but I have no doubt, if such a weapon of 19th century civilisation was brought into force, the wags of Silksworth could find a proper name to put before the word "maiden." It may also be that the hint thrown out by one of the speakers at the Ryhope meeting might be put into practical effect, and cayenne pepper scattered amongst the furniture, and thus very wickedly create an epidemic of sneezing amongst the "candymen." But these will be the last resorts. The men may adopt measures resorted to. The men are determined to so conduct themselves as to enlist public sympathy on their side.

THE INTERVIEW WITH LORD LONDONDERRY.

Yesterday I had a chat with one of the members of the deputation who recently interviewed the Marquis at Belfast. He was loud in his praises of the way in which the lord of Wynyard received his locked-out workmen. He shook each man cordially by the hand, and gave all a hearty welcome. He would, the local delegate, said a full statement of the facts before the Marquis, and if took him just half an hour to do so. He listened quietly, and the impression left on the minds of the men was that if such facts had been laid before him in the same way before the dispute had been allowed to drift into the hands of the Conference Association the struggle would have never reached its present dimensions. He told the men that in future when they could not agree with the managers, or had any dispute of any kind, they were to let him know at once, and he would do his best to get an amicable settlement. Whatever may be the outcome of the present struggle, the men believe that hereafter the journey to Ireland will bear good fruit, and what ever may happen, kindly feelings will always be entertained towards the Marquis for the way in which he received his workmen who had journeyed so far to lay their grievances before him.

READY FOR THE EVICTORS.

The men have made every preparation for the evictions. Ground has been secured on which to erect huts and tents. One of these sites is a piece of waste ground near the Christian Lay Church. A committee has been appointed, and they have the sole charge of the arrangements. The trustees of the Christian Lay Church and the Primitive Methodist Chapel have also very generously placed those respective buildings at the disposal of the committee wherein to shelter the women and children who may be evicted. At first a large wooden erection will be put up on a piece of vacant ground behind the Primitive Methodist Chapel, and into it will be stored the furniture of the evicted people. The miners and their wives of the third and fourth batch will be sheltered in the dwellings of those who remain in houses, and who cannot be legally evicted for another 21 days or more. After that all will go to the chapels, huts, and tents. One serious matter will be the water. This is got from the colliery, and the stand pipes are fixed in the colliery rows. The men are doubtful as to whether they will be permitted to go for their water after being evicted. The Lambton trimmers and heavers, and the Hetton trimmers and heavers, have promised to give a weekly subscription as long as the strike continues. The Ryhope publicans are also to give 5s per week, and a Mr Dunston has promised to give £1 1s per week should the evictions really take place.

THE GATES OF EDEN.

By ANNIE S. SWAN, Author of "Aldersyde," "St. Veda's," "Across Her Path," &c., &c.

CHAPTER IX. (CONTINUED.)

With what deep interest did John Bethune look round the luxurious, well-furnished room! He had never been in so fine a room before: it far excelled Mr Bell's study at Kennoway Manse. He was standing looking at the books in the well-lined shelves when the door was hastily opened, and he turned swiftly round.

"Well, Sandy," he said, joyfully, "here I am. You wouldn't be expecting me, eh?"

"Indeed I was not, faither," said Sandy, and his face reddened, whether with surprise or annoyance it was difficult to tell. But he shook hands cordially enough, and bade him sit down.

"What tempted you to come off in such a hurry? You should have written first."

"I couldn't, man. I didn't know myself till ten o'clock this morning that I was coming. Why have you never written? I was afraid something was wrong."

"Oh, I've been busy arranging for supply, and so on," said the minister, briefly. "I wish I had known you were coming, father. It is most unfortunate, but I have some of my leading members to dinner to-night. They have been very kind to me, and I had to make them some sort of return."

"You've soon begun with dinner parties, my man," said John Bethune with a curious smile. "Well, if I had my face and hands given a wash, I'll just come in and get a bite with you to save bother. That's a very saucy-like girl you have down stairs."

The minister looked at his father almost in dismay. Under the old-fashioned, faded blacks looked so ill, he thought; they no longer fitted the figure which had shrunk so sadly since they were made. How could he take the antiquated, awkward-looking figure into the next room, and introduce him to his guests? He fancied he saw the start of surprise, the ill-concealed amusement, with which he would be received. No, he dared not face such humiliation.

For once in his life Sandy Bethune was entirely wrong. His poor, mean, paltry pride made him misjudge others, for there was not one of his guests who would not have honoured him and joined him in showing respect to the good old man, who, whatever his appearance or attire, was more of a gentleman than his handsome son would ever be.

"I don't think you would enjoy yourself, father. They are all strangers to you, as well as to me," said Sandy, awkwardly. "I think you would be much more comfortable here; and Christina will bring you up some dinner. They won't stay late. By eight o'clock I'll be ready to have a long chat with you."

"Very well, Sandy, my man; if you think your fine friends would be ashamed of your old father, I'll stay here," said John Bethune with a twitch of his lips, for Sandy's words went straight as an arrow to the mark, and wounded him, how keenly Sandy would never know.

"Now don't run away with that idea. Come away to the dining-room if you wish," said Sandy, quickly. "It was only thinking of your comfort. Are you coming, then, for I must go back to my guests?"

"No, I'll stay here. Away you go, and don't bother about me," said the old man, striving to speak more cheerfully. "If your servant woman will bring me a bite, I'll take a stretch on the sofa, for I'm very tired. I've seen the day when six miles wouldn't have made me turn a hair. I went past Lockerbie, you know," he added, in answer to Sandy's astonished look, "and as there wasn't a train for two hours, I just walked on."

"What a man and worse," said Sandy. "Well, Christina shall bring you a glass of sherry immediately; and after your dinner you can rest here. Nobody will disturb you."

So saying, the minister left the room to rejoin his guests, but for him the evening's pleasure was spoiled. He courteously apologised to them for his absence, and again took up the conversation with his usual brilliancy, but his heart was not at rest. Conscience smote him, and he despised himself. Yet he had not the courage to still that accusing voice by obeying its warning dictates. He did not know that in stealing himself at that moment he was making it easier to re-eat the experience; he did not think that, by this weak surrender to as poor and despicable an idea as ever took possession of a man, he had lowered himself, and taken the edge off the finest fibres of his being. These matters all his board were far from his mind, and worldly estate, some had birth and family heritage to boast of, and he could not bring before them the old man whose life had been spent on the fields and at the loom, and who had none of the polish of the outside world. It was a great mood, when I heard footsteps in the lane. I thought they might belong to one of those everlasting Reardons, and I drew back behind a bushy blackthorn that grew beside the gate, and watched the passer-by.

There was more than one—two men went slowly by, in earnest, and, I think, in angry, conversation, though the tones of the one who was talking when they passed the gate were suppressed almost to a whisper.

These two were Uncle Ambrose and the hateful man—the French bookbinder. Scarcely had they passed the gate when another man followed, stealthily, evidently listening to their conversation.

The third man was Cyril—Cyril, my betrothed husband, Cyril, the patron of honesty and honour, following at his father's heels, and acting the degrading part of listener and spy.

I could hardly believe my eyes. I was shocked, horrified, disgusted; and yet, after thinking the whole thing over during a most painful reverie, I was obliged to confess to myself that if the opportunity had occurred to me I might have done the same thing.

Yes, after serious reflection, I found excuses for my poor Cyril, although the sight of that creeping figure, with head bent forward to listen, gave me a dreadful shock.

A greater shock was to come a few hours after, a shock which agitates my heart and nerves at this moment, not knowing how I ought to take it, whether I ought to be glad or sorry. Glad I cannot be, recalling my poor Cyril's white, agonised face as he talked to me by the river at five o'clock yesterday afternoon. Sorry I cannot be when I remember how he has behaved to his father, which I had bound myself weighed upon my spirits.

It was late when I went into the house, but no one had gone to lunch. Mother was sitting alone in the morning-room. Her work basket was on one side of her chair, her book-table on the other, but she was neither reading nor working, and I thought she looked worried and anxious.

It was nearly three o'clock when mother and I went into the dining-room, and by that time I had contrived to cheer her with talk about the books we had been reading lately, and about a possible run to the Continent in the early part of September. There was no sign of Cyril.

"He must have lunched at the Vicarage," said my mother. "Rather bad manners on his part. He ought to have come to lay his laurels at your feet."

His laurels. Ah, yes, the result of the final. After our feeble attempt at luncheon mother went off on one of her charitable expeditions. I knew that would last for a good two hours, so I resigned myself to take tea alone, unless Cyril should reappear. I was really anxious to see him. Of course there could be nothing to the discredit of Uncle Ambrose in his discovery, on the revelation of that dear good man's weakness where anything in the way of a book is concerned.

I ordered my tea upon the terrace—exactly where I had my tea-table that afternoon when Mr Florestan and I had our tête-à-tête.

It was near five when I saw a young man coming across the lawn to the terrace where I was sitting—a young man in tennis flannels such as those I had seen Cyril wear when he started for the tournament that morning; a man of Cyril's height and build, but not the least like Cyril in figure or walk, as I saw him in the distance; for this man stooped as Cyril never did, and this man's step had none of the elastic force of Cyril's rapid movements. Yet this man with the best shoulders and dull, slow walk was Cyril, and no one else—Cyril transformed by some heavy trouble.

He came quietly to the empty chair by my side, and seated himself in silence, and looked at me with eyes whose expression I can never forget. All foolish, frivolous words died on my lips. I could only reach him in mute expectancy.

"Daisy," he began, in a low, solemn voice that was even stranger than his altered looks, "I think you know that I have loved you, honestly, truly, and dearly."

"I am sure you have, dear," I answered, with a sinking heart, knowing that I myself dared not have called him such a name of my own free will.

"I have not gone into hysterics about my passion, or written verses, or done any other of the wild things that, perhaps, I might have done had we met as strangers at Venice the other day and fallen in love with each other at first sight. I have taken everything for granted—too much for granted, perhaps."

I thought that he had discovered my guilty secret, that he had found out somehow that I had left off caring for him, and had begun to care for Florestan. I think I was going to throw myself on my knees at his feet, when he stopped my uncertain movement with a hand laid heavily upon my arm.

"That is all over and done with, Daisy," he said, "our wooing at Venice and elsewhere; and all the happy days and hours we have had together, and all our plans for the future; and the rooms that have been made beautiful for us to live in; and the life we were to lead; all those things must be as a dream that we have dreamed, and you must teach yourself to forget me, and to forget that you were ever my promised wife."

Yes, he had found out all the truth, I told myself. My head drooped forward upon my clasped hands, and I had what the Reardon girls call a good cry.

"My darling, don't cry so bitterly," he pleaded, more tenderly than I ever remember him to have done in all our foolish little love scenes. "You are breaking my heart, and I have need to be strong and stern to face a cruel future. There is an insuperable bar to our marriage; an obstacle with which you and I have nothing to do. I am going to speak to you a favour."

"What is that?"

"I want you to let your mother suppose that it is you who have broken the engagement. You can say that you did not know your own mind when you accepted me, that you were too precipitate—the sort of thing girls say pretty often, I believe. I don't think, as society is constituted nowadays, there will be very much astonishment at the alteration of our plans. I hope before a year is over that my darling will have found a worthier lover, and, as I shall be far away, no doubt people will soon forget me."

"You will be far away," I echoed. "Where?"

"In Australia. I shall try to begin a new life on the other side of the world; breed sheep on the Darling Downs, or turn wine grower. Heaven knows what; but anyhow my future shall be as far remote from my past as distance can make it."

"I begin to suspect your motive," I said seriously. "Uncle Ambrose has lost his fortune. Its coming was like a fairy tale, and it has vanished like gold in fairyland. Oh, Cyril, surely you know that I never cared about your father's wealth, or thought whether you were rich or poor. Mother and I have plenty of money for all of us."

"My dearest, I know your generous heart. No, it is not a question of money trouble that has darkened my days; but there is a trouble; and it is one which I must keep locked up in my own breast till I die. All is over between us; and my life must be spent thousands of miles away. I could not trust myself within reach of an express train that would bring me back to you."

He bent over me as I sat motionless with wonder, looking at the bright water and the lights and shadows on the wood. He pressed his lips upon my forehead in a farewell kiss.

"Good-bye, my Margaret, mine no more," he said, and then turned away and walked slowly across the lawn by the way he had come.

I heard the gate in the fence open and shut, and I knew that he had gone across the road to his father's cottage.

I sat looking at the water in a mute, dull wonder, while quarter after quarter chimed from the old grey tower, and the shadows deepened, and the golden lights grew dim upon beech and oak, and the willows in the foreground changed from green to grey.

What was it? Had he gambled? Had he kept race horses? Had he forged? There was another idea which struck me afterwards, as I walked back to the house. What if Cyril, in a weak, good-natured way had got himself engaged to another girl, a girl he detested, and felt that honour obliged him to marry her because she was of inferior rank and because he detested her.

This would account for his resolution to go to the other side of the world and begin a new life. He would marry this person and take her straight off to the antipodes, where no one belonging to his own world would ever see him in his disgrace. Poor Cyril.

Mother came out of the drawing-room window to meet me as I drew near the house. I had been keeping my heart locked against that dear mother for months; but now I was determined to be no longer secret and prevaricating. I put my arms round her neck, and laid my bewildered head upon her shoulder.

"Mother, dear, you have no need to trouble about that horrid trousseau," I said, half-laughing and half-crying; "a change has come over the spirit of our dream—mine and Cyril's. We have agreed that we don't quite suit each other—or at least that we answer better as brother and sister than as wife and husband. So we will end so—in the friendliest way—we have agree to part. He is going to Australia to look about him; and I am going to stay with you."

I believe I was slightly hysterical after this, and I felt very much ashamed of myself as I heard myself making a ridiculous noise without the power to stop.

Poor mother kissed and comforted me, and scolded me a little, till I quieted down, and then she sat by my side on our favourite sofa to discuss the situation.

"This is very sudden, Daisy," she said, and I saw that she looked grave and troubled.

"It seems sudden," I answered, "but it has been in the air for some time—ever since we left Paris."

"Ever since you left Paris!" repeated mother, as if she saw a light. "Did you ask him to release you?"

I could not tell her a deliberate falsehood, but I could prevaricate, which I dare say is just as bad.

"There was no necessity for me to ask him," I said, "he understood my feelings—we understood each other perfectly. Don't ask any more questions, mother, darling," I pleaded, "at least not just now. There is no mistake to be made about that much. There is no misfortune to be retrieved. Goodness gracious me! I am not in the humility of the village girl who has been jilted by her lover. I am given with each box they will contain of all ages to stand and [illegible] was born perfect by the time it was [illegible] the hundred wheels which are necessary for a Work Scientific, Lighted Dwelling. The Driver of the Lever they are not to [illegible] down will be dealt to. With wonders of important organs in the human [illegible] the whole [illegible] system, renders [illegible] arouse into action with the [illegible] physical energy of the human frame. [illegible] continually by [illegible] and Dobbinard is [illegible] Lorimer Side of any Patent Medicine [illegible]

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WHOSE WAS THE HAND?

By Miss Braddon, Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," "Like and Unlike," "The Day Will Come," &c.

CHAPTER XVII.

SCATTERED TO THE WINDS.

I have seen that man again. He was lounging on the grassy bank above the lock this evening in the sunset, as Cyril and I came through in our wherry. There the creature sprawled, looking hideously metropolitan in his black cutaway coat and black felt hat, against the background of flowering grasses and the ragged old hedgerow, tangled with woodbine and starred with blackberry blossom.

I pointed him out to Cyril.

"That is the bookbinder-man who haunts your father," I said; and then I told how the man had been at River Lawn enquiring for Uncle Ambrose.

"Did my father see him?" asked Cyril.

"Evidently; for he was nearly an hour at the cottage. I saw him leave."

"My father may have kept him waiting for the best part of that time," answered Cyril. "You know how absent-minded he is when he is among his books."

"Yes, indeed," said I, "and I hope that odious man was sitting on the little oak bench in the lobby nursing his hat all the time."

The last entry is two days old; and now I have to record the strangest event in my life, since I have come to womanhood—an event so startling that I am almost too agitated to write about it, although it happened yesterday.

I awoke yesterday morning with that curious feeling with which I have so often awakened of late—a feeling of vague wonder. I was out in the garden by seven, and breakfasted with mother, Uncle Ambrose, and Cyril at eight. There is a tennis tournament on at the Vicarage, and Cyril and Beatrice Reardon were to play the final yesterday, between eleven and one. I was expected to look on; but my early walk in the garden had given me a headache, or something else had; so I told Cyril I could not stand the noise and glare of the tennis-court at the Vicarage, where all the Reardon family and hangers-on would be bawling and laughing, and making themselves generally detestable—to anyone with a headache. So I said I would go for a gentle walk while he was finishing the match, and be home in time to congratulate him at luncheon.

"For you are sure to win," said I.

"I don't know about that. Beatrice is a very fine player."

"She ought to be," said I, "for she thinks of nothing else. To hear her talk one would suppose the honour of England was to be maintained by tennis."

"Well, it is a fine, manly game, and suits the girls of this generation," said he.

"Don't tire yourself, darling," he said, looking at me over so kindly with his honest eyes, as we parted at the Vicarage gate; and then I went for a long and lonely ramble in the Berkshire lanes.

I came to the little gate that opened out of the meadow into a deep lane leading directly to our own road, and I was lingering at it in a dreamy mood, when I heard footsteps in the lane. I thought they might belong to one of those everlasting Reardons, and I drew back behind a bushy blackthorn that grew beside the gate, and watched the passer-by.

There was more than one—two men went slowly by, in earnest, and, I think, in angry, conversation, though the tones of the one who was talking when they passed the gate were suppressed almost to a whisper.

These two were Uncle Ambrose and the hateful man—the French bookbinder. Scarcely had they passed the gate when another man followed, stealthily, evidently listening to their conversation.

The third man was Cyril—Cyril, my betrothed husband, Cyril, the patron of honesty and honour, following at his father's heels, and acting the degrading part of listener and spy.

I could hardly believe my eyes. I was shocked, horrified, disgusted; and yet, after thinking the whole thing over during a most painful reverie, I was obliged to confess to